

For Immediate Release  
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### **Non-Profit Agency *The Effort* to Offer Free Vaccinations**

To celebrate National Infant Immunization Week, (April 24-May 1) **The Effort Oak Park Community Health Center (3415 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd)** will be offering **free vaccinations for those 18 and under** to the surrounding underserved community and the community at large.

Vaccinations are being offered all week at the **Oak Park Community Health Center**, and we will have **several scheduled appointments** to accommodate the media on **Wednesday, April 28, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 pm.**

#### **The free vaccinations will include:**

- Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis
- Inactivated Poliovirus
- Hepatitis B
- Haemophilus Influenzae Type b
- Pneumococcal
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella
- Varicella
- H1N1

**(All of which will be offered at The Effort Oak Park Community Health Center)**

Despite recent gains in infant immunization coverage, **the CDC reports that in Northern California only 52% of children 19-35 months had received all the recommended vaccinations listed above.**

Immunization is one of the single most important steps parents can take to help assure their children grow up to be strong and healthy. Millions of cases of disease and thousands of deaths in children are prevented each year through immunization.

According to **Diane Oran RN, Clinic Director of The Effort Oak Park Community Health Center** "No child should be behind in their vaccinations. Free programs such as CHDP (Childhood Health and Disabilities Program) cover all children for recommended physical examinations and vaccinations. The unnecessary death of even one child from a vaccine-preventable disease is tragic."

The Effort partners with the Sacramento County Immunization Assistance Program to provide the general public with Vaccines For Children, Seasonal Flu and H1N1 for a nominal fee of \$10. The general public can call the Effort at (916) 233-4910 to make appointments. H1N1 vaccine can be obtained on a walk-in basis daily Monday-Friday, from 9am-4:30pm. During National Infant Immunization Week the vaccines will be free.

The Effort in Oak Park has teamed with UC Davis Department of Pediatrics to provide services for children. Children have access to world renown Pediatricians through the CHDP program. CHDP is a free program.

On a National Level, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will launch National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) with events beginning April 24 and continuing through May 1, 2009. Parents, caregivers and health care providers will be reminded of the benefits of vaccination and the importance of routine childhood vaccination.

Vaccination plays a critical role in safeguarding public health globally. During NIIW 2010, hundreds of

communities across the United States will join those in the Western Hemisphere and Europe to celebrate Vaccination Week in the Americas (VWA) and European Immunization Week. This year, the World Health Organization's (WHO) Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMRO) is also joining the partners around the world.

This year marks the 15th anniversary of NIIW. The vaccines listed above (which will be offered by The Effort) protect children against 14 diseases before age 2.

**To make an appointment for a CHDP exam or to just receive free vaccinations please call (916) 233-4910.**