FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Williamson County and Cities Health District Observes National Infant Immunization Week

During the week of April 18 – April 25, 2015, the Williamson County and Cities Health District will observe National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW), an annual observance to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and celebrate the achievements of immunization programs and their partners in promoting healthy communities. Since 1994, local and state health departments, national immunization partners, health care professionals, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have worked together through NIIW to highlight the positive impact of vaccination on the lives of infants and children and to call attention to immunization achievements.

WCCHD Texas Vaccines for Children Program (TVFC) Coordinator Jan Pelosi says, “Today’s parents are so fortunate that they have the opportunity to have their children vaccinated against so many diseases that once permanently harmed and even killed so many. Because of very safe and effective vaccines, we now routinely vaccinate and protect our children against approximately 16 diseases.”

Infant and childhood vaccines are provided at all WCCHD Public Health Centers year round by appointment only. Childhood vaccinations are provided at all WCCHD clinics for children eligible for the Texas Vaccines For Children (TVFC) Program. Parents or guardians should bring their children's immunization records with them to the clinic. To qualify for the TVFC Program, your child must be uninsured or have health insurance that does not cover the specific vaccine. The vaccination administration fee is $10.00 per vaccine. Eligible clients will not be turned away based on their inability to pay the administration fee. Payment is due at time of visit. Cash, checks, and credit cards are accepted. Please call a clinic near you to schedule an appointment. Same-day appointments will be given as available.

WCCHD manages the TVFC Program throughout Williamson County and recruits providers to participate in the program. TVFC provides childhood vaccines at no cost to private physicians, clinics, public health agencies, and others. In turn, TVFC providers administer these vaccines to children who are Medicaid-eligible, enrolled in CHIP, uninsured, underinsured or who are American Indian or Alaskan Native. Although TVFC providers cannot charge for the vaccine, they are allowed to charge a modest vaccine administration fee.

To learn more about WCCHD services, visit your public health district website at www.wcchd.org or call 512-248-3257.

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