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**Englewood  
Department of Health**

# Press Release

**Englewood, NJ, October 28, 2010**

## Englewood Health Department Expands Immunization Clinic Program to School-Aged Children 6 to 18 Years Old

Each year, thousands of children become ill from diseases that could have been prevented by basic childhood immunizations. Countless more miss time from day care and school because they are under-immunized or inappropriately immunized.

“A fully vaccinated child is protected against 14 serious and sometimes deadly diseases,” said Nelson Xavier Cruz, Director, Health Services and Health Officer of the Englewood Health Department. “These are diseases that are completely preventable with immunizations. We are urging all Englewood families to ensure that their children are up to date on immunizations.”

Englewood Health Department’s Child Health Conference (CHC) is a “well-baby clinic” offered to Englewood infants and pre-school children, ages 0 to 5 years, who qualify financially (as determined by a financial screening of the family) for the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. The Health Department is a VFC Program provider, and the VFC Program provides free vaccines to children whose parents need help paying for them. For those families who do not qualify for the VFC Program, a sliding fee scale is applied based on family gross size and income.

Services included in the CHC are: a full examination of the child and age-appropriate immunizations performed by pediatrician, Dr. Marjorie Jones. Periodic hemoglobin, urinalysis, lead screening, vision, hearing, and TB tests are also conducted. At each clinic session parents are counseled on growth, development, nutrition, and safety. Lead Poisoning Prevention education is also provided. Twelve Child Health Conference Clinics are offered throughout the year, on the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Tuesday of each month from 3:00pm to 6:00pm at the Englewood Health Department.

In addition to serving pre-schoolers, the Englewood Health Department now offers the VFC Program to school-aged children. Also held monthly, it provides vaccines to Englewood's children ages 6 to 18 years in need of immunizations and without health insurance. School nurses and various other agencies refer the children to the Englewood Health Department. Immunizations are administered by a physician and public health nurse. For more information, please contact the public health nurse, Ms. Deborah Shulgach, at 201-871-6511.