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**April 24, 2018**

**NEWS RELEASE**

## **Public Health Department Celebrates National Infant Immunization Week**

Public Health offers free vaccines to youngest El Pasoans

**EL PASO, Texas** – In observance of National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW), the City of El Paso Department of Public Health will be offering free vaccines to infants who may not otherwise have access to this important service.

The Immunizations Program will offer the free vaccines on a first come, first served basis from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday April 26, at the following locations:

- Ysleta Clinic, 110 Candelaria Road
- Henderson Clinic, 721 S. Mesa Street

The vaccines will be offered to eligible patients 0-2 years of age. In order to qualify, the child must meet one of the following criteria:

- Medicaid eligible
- Uninsured: a child who has no health insurance coverage
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Enrolled in CHIP (El Paso First)
- Underinsured: a child with no insurance coverage for vaccinations or only partial coverage

National Infant Immunization Week is April 21 through 28. The week highlights the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and celebrates the achievements of immunization programs and their partners in promoting healthy communities.

"Vaccine Preventable diseases such as measles, mumps, and pertussis still exist. While we have been very fortunate to not have any outbreaks in El Paso for several years, we must be proactive to keep it that way," said Public Health Supervisor Alejandra Rodarte. "Because vaccination needs to start very early in a child's life, we are happy to be able to offer free vaccines during National Infant Immunization Week and hope our community will take advantage of this opportunity."

For more information on the free vaccines, call (915) 212-6555 or visit the Department of Public Health websites [www.EPHealth.com](http://www.EPHealth.com) or [www.EPSalud.com](http://www.EPSalud.com).

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