

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 14, 2008

## National Infant Immunization Week, April 25-May 2 Health District to host special, Saturday shot clinics

LAS VEGAS – As part of National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW), the Southern Nevada Health District will host a special Saturday immunization clinic between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Saturday, April 25 at its 625 Shadow Lane location. Childhood and school immunizations will be available, including the mandatory 7<sup>th</sup> grade Tdap (pertussis) vaccine. In addition, children who receive an immunization will also receive a vehicle booster seat provided by SAFEKIDS Partnership; children must weigh at least 40 pounds to receive the seat. An administrative fee of \$16 per child for one shot or \$25 per child for two or more shots will be collected. Some vaccines might require an additional fee. For more information about the Saturday clinic or immunization services, contact the Southern Nevada Health District's immunization office at (702) 759-0850 or visit <u>www.SouthernNevadaHealthDistrict.org</u>. Booster seats will be available on a first-come-first-served basis.

An additional Saturday clinic will be held between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., May 2 at the North Las Vegas Fire Station # 52, 2626 E. Carey Avenue, 89030. Booster seats will be provided to children who receive immunizations and weighs at least 40 pounds. Booster seats will be available on a first-come-first-served basis by SAFEKIDS Partnerships.

The Southern Nevada Health District offers immunizations year round at its public health centers between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The health district's public health centers are located:

- Ravenholt Public Health Center: 625 Shadow Lane, Las Vegas
- East Las Vegas Public Health Center: 560 Nellis Blvd., Ste. E-12, Las Vegas
- North Las Vegas Public Health Center: 1820 W. Lake Mead Blvd., Ste. F, North Las Vegas
- Henderson Public Health Center, 520 E. Lake Mead Parkway, Henderson

NIIW is an annual observance to promote the benefits of immunizations, especially for children up to 36 months. Nevada continually lags behind the rest of the nation in its immunization rates for this age group. Immunizations are considered one of the most important public health advances of the past century and have reduced infant deaths and disability from preventable diseases in the United States.

Recently, several important milestones have been reached in controlling vaccine-preventable diseases among infants and adults worldwide:

- In 2009, many physicians leaving medical school will never see a case of measles.
- In 2007, CDC announced that childhood immunization rates remain at or near record highs.
- In 2005, the CDC announced that rubella is no longer a major health threat to pregnant women or their unborn children, due to high vaccine coverage rates.