



## OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR

Knox County Health Department  
140 Dameron Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37917-6413

August 11, 2014

Dear Parent,

For the tenth consecutive year in conjunction with our partners, Knox County Health Department (KCHD) will be offering Influenza vaccinations through school-located vaccination clinics to **ALL** children ages 6 months through 18 years of age, living in Knox County. Each year, more than 47 percent of the eligible children in Knox County receive influenza vaccine through this program, which has created a healthier community and helped keep our children in school.

In an effort to sustain the program and remove barriers to vaccination for all kids, KCHD utilizes multiple funding methods. One method is to bill your insurance for the vaccination. If you have insurance, complete the insurance information on the consent. **WE WILL NOT SEND A BILL TO YOU, WE WILL ONLY BILL YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY.** Another method is through donations by local organizations and individuals. We have partnered with the Metropolitan Drug Commission, a 501c3, to accept charitable donations for the vaccination program. The donations are tax deductible. On the electronic consent form, there is an opportunity for you to donate money to cover the costs for children who do not have insurance. In addition, you may go to <http://knoxcounty.org/health>.

Striving to simplify the delivery of this important program, we are excited to again offer parents the ability to **complete and digitally sign the consent form entirely online**. Go to <https://knoxcounty.org/health/flumist>. This feature should be a time-saver for parents and enable KCHD staff to more efficiently manage this complex program. Your participation in the online process is greatly appreciated.

Of course if you prefer, you may complete the enclosed paper form as before, making sure you fill it out completely, sign it, and return it to your child's teacher this week. **As always, we will not vaccinate your child unless we have a completed consent**, either online or on paper.

Phase 1 clinics will be conducted between September 15 to October 9. Phase 2 clinics will be conducted between November 6 - 14. Please check KCHD's or your school's website for the date and time of your school's vaccination clinic. If your child misses his or her school's clinic date, you may take him or her to any health department [location](#) for a free influenza vaccine.

This year, children under the age of nine who have not received at least two doses of flu vaccine since July 2010 will need two (2) doses of influenza vaccine separated by at least one month.

If you have questions about influenza vaccination, we encourage you to ask your school nurse, call your doctor's office, or go to [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) or <http://knoxcounty.org/health/flumist>.

Knox County Health Department strongly advocates influenza vaccinations to prevent spread of disease. Your input on KCHD's programs is important to us. Please send comments about the program to [SLVC@knoxcounty.org](mailto:SLVC@knoxcounty.org) or by using the back of the paper consent form.

Sincerely,

Martha Buchanan, MD  
Director and Public Health Officer

John Lott, RN, MS  
Director, Clinical Services