



NORTHEAST TEXAS PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 2039 • TYLER, TEXAS 75710

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Terrence Ates
Public Information Officer
(903) 343 - 5451**

**NORTHEAST TEXAS PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT
OBSERVES NATIONAL INFANT IMMUNIZATION WEEK**

Tyler, Texas (April 24, 2017) – In the United States, vaccines have reduced or eliminated many diseases that once harmed our infants and children. These diseases such as; Measles, Mumps or Whooping Cough, still exist and can be passed on to people who are not immunized.

During the week of April 24 – April 28, 2017, NET Health will emphasize the importance of National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW), a national observance to promote the benefits of immunizations and to improve the health of children two years old or younger. Since 1994, local and state health departments, national immunization partners, healthcare professionals, community leaders from across the United States, 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 call attention to immunization achievements.

“National Infant Immunization Week allows the community an opportunity to know the benefits and importance of vaccinating our children,” says George Roberts, CEO of NETPHD.

In 2009, Texas was named the most improved state in childhood immunizations by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention due to an increase of 13.5 percent coverage rate based on the National Immunization Survey data. According to the National Immunization Survey, childhood immunization rates for vaccines routinely recommended for children remain at or near record levels. NET Health continues to administer some 14,000 vaccinations yearly, and yet, there is still much work to be done. “Childhood vaccinations are one of the best ways for our community and us as parents to protect our children against vaccine-preventable diseases.” says Sylvia Warren, RN, Director of Immunization for NET Health.

Immunization services are available at NET Health Immunization Department located at 815 North Broadway, Tyler. For more information about childhood vaccinations, visit www.HealthyEastTexas.org or call the NET Health Immunizations Department at 903-510-5604.

About the Northeast Texas Public Health District (NET Health)

NET Health serves a vital function through our Departments of Immunizations, Tuberculosis Control, Laboratory Services, Vital Statistics, Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Disease Surveillance, Environmental Health, WIC (Women, Infants and Children) & Community Outreach.

The mission of NET Health is to promote health, prevent illness and protect our community.

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