

## National Infant Immunization Week a reminder to keep kids healthy through vaccinations

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, APRIL 25, 2019:

NEW BRAUNFELS — With vaccine-preventable diseases such as measles and mumps on the rise across the United States, the Comal County Office of Public Health is using National Infant Immunization Week to remind residents that vaccines are the best way to keep their newborns safe and healthy.

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) is an annual observance to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and to celebrate the achievements of immunization programs in promoting healthy communities throughout the nation. 2019 is the 25th year of NIIW; this year, it will be April 27 through May 4.

"Vaccines have saved numerous lives, and the more infants who are vaccinated, the safer and healthier all of us are," said Cheryl Fraser, the county's director of public health. "Our office is ready to help any interested parents make sure their children's immunizations are up to date."

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that routine childhood immunization prevented more than 26 million hospitalizations and 963,000 early deaths between 1994 and 2018; vaccines now prevent 14 diseases among children before they turn 2 years old.

The Office of Public Health is located in the county's Goodwin Annex, 1297 Church Hill Drive, New Braunfels. Residents seeking more information about childhood vaccinations or making an appointment for their children should call the office at 830-221-1150.

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