

NEWS RELEASE

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North Dakota Department of Health Hosts State Immunization Conference

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) will host the 2016 North Dakota Immunization Conference Wednesday, Aug. 3, and Thursday, Aug. 4, in Bismarck. Health care providers who work with immunizations are encouraged to attend. Registration for the conference is available for \$150 per registrant. More than 250 health care providers are expected to participate.

Subject-matter experts will be speaking throughout the two-day event, including Dr. Gary Marshall, MD, University of Louisville School of Medicine, who will give a keynote presentation on vaccine hesitancy. Dr. LJ Tan, Immunization Action Coalition; Kylie Hall, North Dakota State University Center for Immunization Research and Education; and Dr. Terry Dwelle, NDDoH, are also keynote speakers. Topics at the conference include improving adult immunization rates, recent immunization recommendations, health care provider best practices, vaccine storage and handling, and information on school immunization requirements.

Christine Baze, who is a cervical cancer survivor and founder of the Yellow Umbrella Organization, will be the closing keynote speaker. Christine uses her music and her personal story of survival to raise awareness about the prevalence of human papillomavirus (HPV) and the importance of cervical cancer screening and HPV vaccination. The media is encouraged to attend her session on Thursday, Aug. 4, from 2:15 to 3:30 p.m. in the Lamborn Ballroom at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck.

Thirty providers will receive award(s) at the immunization conference for high rates of immunization or for increasing immunization rates by at least ten percent.

- Altru Clinic – Devils Lake
- Altru Family Medicine Center
- Altru Family Medicine Residency
- Cavalier County Health District
- Dickey County Health District

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- Elbowoods Memorial Health Center
- Family Medicine at Altru Professional Center
- Foster County Public Health
- Grafton Family Clinic
- Independent Family Doctors – Fargo
- Lake Region District Health – Benson County
- Lake Region District Health Unit – Ramsey County
- Mid Dakota Clinic Gateway Pediatrics
- Quentin Burdick Healthcare Facility – Belcourt
- Ransom County Public Health
- Rolette County Public Health District
- Sanford Health Jamestown
- Sanford North Clinic – Bismarck
- Southwest District Health Unit – Bowman/Slope Counties
- Trinity Community Clinic Western Dakota
- Trinity Health Center West
- UND Center for Family Medicine – Minot
- Upper Missouri District Health Unit – Mountrail County
- Valley Community Health Center – Grand Forks
- Viscito Family Medicine
- West River Health Services – Hettinger
- West River Health Services – Scranton

“These clinics have shown their commitment to the health and well-being of the children of North Dakota by achieving outstanding immunization rates and being immunization leaders,” said Molly Howell, Immunization Program Manager for the NDDoH. “North Dakota is fortunate to have health-care providers that strive to ensure their patients are vaccinated and protected against many serious diseases.”

Registration is still available for those interested in attending. The conference will be held at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel. More information, including registration information, is available on the conference’s website at www.conferences.und.edu/immunization/.

For more information, contact Abbi Berg, NDDoH, at 701.328.2378.

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