

For Immediate Release:  
April 23, 2009

Contact: Chris Minnick, Health Dept.  
Office: 575-528-5197, Cell: 575-649-0754  
Anna Pentler, NM Immunization Coalition  
Office: 505-272-5796

### **“Got Shots? Protect Tots!” Immunization Clinics to be Held Statewide April 27 to May 2**

(Santa Fe) – The New Mexico Immunization Coalition and its partners, including the New Mexico Department of Health, are encouraging parents to have their children immunized at special immunization clinics April 27 to May 2. The clinics are part of the “Got Shots? Protect Tots!” campaign and are being held in recognition of National Infant Immunization Week.

“Having your child’s immunizations up-to-date is the best way to protect them from potentially life threatening diseases,” said Health Secretary Alfredo Vigil, MD. “The special clinics are a perfect opportunity to get caught up on immunizations that might have been missed or to stay on track with your child’s immunization schedule.”

Approximately 47 private practices, community health centers and public health offices across the state are participating in the special “Got Shots? Protect Tots!” immunization clinics. This is the second year that members of the New Mexico Immunization Coalition have partnered for quarterly “Got Shots? Protect Tots!” events. During all the 2008 events, providers gave more than 9,500 immunizations to more than 4,000 children across the state. The next quarterly “Got Shots? Protect Tots!” event will be held in August.

The Department of Health provides free immunizations at public health clinics in every county for children whose parents are not insured. Immunizations are the best way to protect children from serious, preventable diseases. The Department is focusing attention on communities that need additional support in getting their children immunized on time every time. The Department will always look for new ways to get more children protected against preventable diseases.

Parents attending the clinics should bring a copy of their child’s immunization record. To find a clinic near you, go online to [www.immunizenm.org](http://www.immunizenm.org) and click on the Got Shots link, or call toll-free, 1-866-681-5872.

###