

November 04, 2013

News Release

*For Immediate Release*

### **Final free flu shot clinics this week**

The Springfield Flu Immunization Coalition's last two free flu shot clinics for uninsured adults take place this week at the following dates and times:

- **9 a.m.-noon on Tuesday, Nov. 5**, – Crosslines, 615 N. Glenstone Ave.
- **9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 6** – Salvation Army, 1707 W. Chestnut Expressway

More than 1,000 doses of vaccine have been administered by the Coalition so far this season. The Flu Coalition is a long-standing partnership that includes CoxHealth, the Greene County Medical Society, Jordan Valley Community Health Center, Mercy Springfield, Ozarks Community Hospital and the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, as well the nursing colleges associated with both Cox and Mercy.

**Seasonal flu vaccinations are recommended for everyone who is at least 6 months of age.** It is especially important for pregnant women, young children, people 65 years and older, and people with compromised immune systems for reasons that may include certain medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, chronic lung disease, heart disease, kidney disorders and metabolic disorders. For most people, there are many opportunities to get a flu shot and health officials strongly recommend that anyone who has the means to get vaccinated do so.

The Springfield-Greene County Health Department will continue to offer seasonal flu vaccine only for:

- Children ages 6 months to 18 years old
- Pregnant women
- People in close contact with babies under 6 months old (because they cannot receive the vaccine themselves)

There is no charge for Greene County residents who are in the above three categories. People who are in the above three categories but do not reside in Greene County can pay a \$17 fee to be vaccinated. Vaccinations are available at the Westside Public Health Center, 660 S. Scenic Ave., by appointment or during walk-in clinic hours, which are from 7:30-10 a.m. on Tuesdays only. Call (417) 874-1220 to make an appointment.

For more information about the Health Department clinics or the Flu Coalition clinics, contact: Mike Brothers, Public Information Administrator, (417) 874-1205.