

# Dickinson-Iron District Health Department

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### **NEWS RELEASE**

Contact: Kristina Santilli Email: ksantilli@didhd.org Phone: (906) 265-4170 Date: September 8, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Health Department Announces Influenza Vaccination Clinics**

Crystal Falls and Kingsford, Michigan – September 8, 2023. The Dickinson-Iron District Health Department (DIDHD) announces plans to conduct the following off-site community influenza (flu) clinics. **Appointments are necessary**; **no walk-ins will be accepted**. Please contact the office directly at 906-774-1868 (Dickinson County) or 906-265-9913 (Iron County) to make an appointment.

### **DICKINSON COUNTY CLINIC DATES:**

- Health Department Kingsford- Monday, September 25, 2023 1-5 p.m.
- Health Department Kingsford- Monday, October 2, 2023 1-6 p.m.
- Norway School Library Tuesday, October 24, 2023 3-5 p.m.

### **IRON COUNTY CLINIC DATES:**

- Health Department Crystal Falls- Monday, September 25, 2023 1-5 p.m.
- Health Department Crystal Falls- Monday, October 2, 2023 1-6 p.m.
- West Iron School Stambaugh Gym Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:30-5 p.m.

For Influenza vaccine, the Health Department will bill Medicare Part B, Michigan Medicaid and most private health insurances. Bring a copy of your insurance card. For self-pay, check or exact change is accepted. Self-pay prices for influenza vaccine are as follows; Standard Flu - \$40.00 and High Dose Flu - \$80.00.

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Health officials state it is very important to receive the seasonal flu vaccine. Flu is a contagious disease spread by coughing, sneezing, or nasal secretions. Infants, the elderly, pregnant women, and people with certain health conditions – such as heart, lung or kidney disease or a weakened immune system – are at higher risk for complication from the flu virus. Flu can cause high fever and pneumonia, and make existing medical conditions worse.

Each year thousands of people die from seasonal flu and even more require hospitalization. A flu vaccine a great tool to decrease the chance hospitalization due to influenza. Our goal is to increase influenza vaccination, decrease flu related hospitalizations, and spare the local hospital systems from overcrowding or overwhelm. The single best way to protect yourself and your loved ones against the flu is to get vaccinated each year. It is recommended that everyone 6 months of age and older receive a flu vaccine. The DIDHD also encourages new parents, health care professionals, and those who have contact with people age 65 and older to get vaccinated to help protect these high-risk individuals.

For those individuals with access to the internet, consent forms for influenza clinics are available at didhd.org. Please print and fill out a consent form prior to arriving at your appointment; this will help keep the clinic flow moving. For those who are unable, there will be consents available at time of check in.

If you or your family is unable to attend the off-site clinics, please call us to schedule your flu vaccine during a clinic held at the health department. For more information visit www.cdc.gov or contact the Health Department at (906) 774-1868 or (906) 265-9913.