

IAC Coalition Conference Call – Amy Pisani, Executive Director, ECBT

ECBT Efforts to Address Vaccine Hesitancy and Share Value of Vaccines
with Federal and State Legislators



Every Child By Two's Mission is to...

...**Protect families and individuals from vaccine-preventable diseases** by raising awareness of the critical need for timely immunizations for people of all ages; increasing the public's understanding of the benefits of vaccines; increasing confidence in the safety of vaccines; ensuring that all families have access to life-saving vaccines; and **advocating for policies that support timely vaccination.**

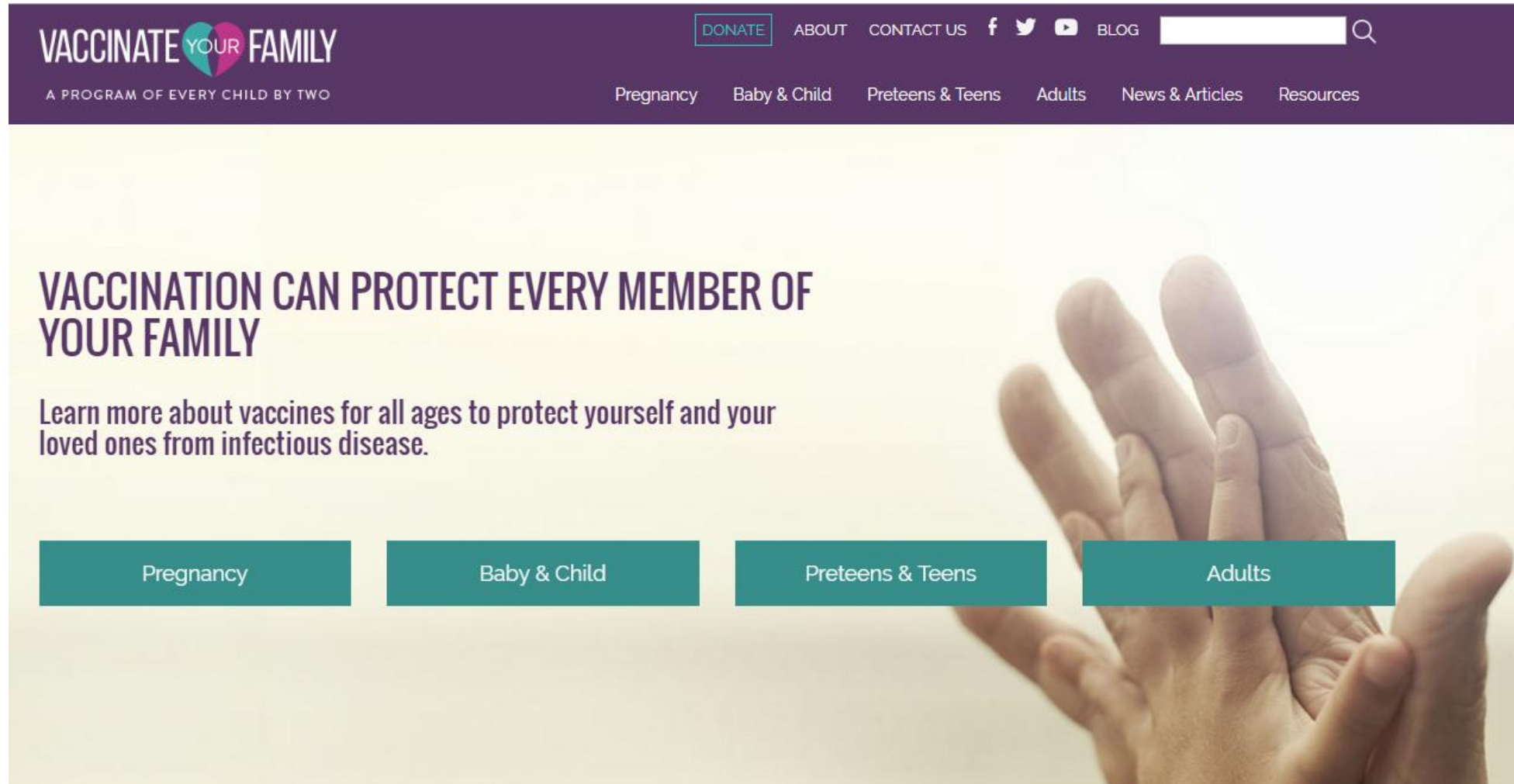
Vaccinate Your Family Campaign



Our new campaign for the public, which replaced Vaccinate Your Baby, features:

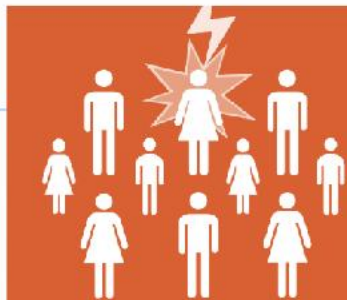
- Information on vaccines for pregnant women, babies/children, preteens/teens, and adults
- Answers to most frequently asked questions from parents
- Stories of people affected by vaccine-preventable diseases
- Links to peer-reviewed studies on vaccines and vaccine safety
- Links to variety of credible websites and immunization resources created by ECBT and other credible organizations

Vaccinate Your Family Website



State of the ImmUnion Program

STATE OF THE IMMUNION



STATE OF THE IMMUNION

MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE

Meningococcal disease is highly contagious and strikes quickly, killing 1 out of 10 of its victims. Infants and people who live in community settings, such as college dormitories, are at highest risk.

Source: <http://vaccinateyourfamily.org/baby-and-child/diseases/meningococcal-disease>

Blog Posts Highlight Personal Stories

Meningococcal Disease Killed My Child, But a New Vaccine Means It Doesn't Have to Kill Yours

August 3, 2014 · Christine Vora · 3 comments · 101 views

The general public often hears the name meningitis, but is unfamiliar with the threat of meningococcal disease in the US. As part of the recent "State of the ImmUnion" campaign, I wrote about my experience with meningococcal disease. My son, Evan, was a healthy 10-year-old boy who died of meningococcal disease. In his speech "State of the ImmUnion" today, I will share how we can protect our children from meningococcal disease and the ways it can be prevented.

How we can protect our children from meningococcal disease, and the ways it can be prevented. I will share how we can protect our children from meningococcal disease and the ways it can be prevented.

What I've learned from Evan's story, and how we can protect our children from meningococcal disease and the ways it can be prevented.

How we can protect our children from meningococcal disease, and the ways it can be prevented. I will share how we can protect our children from meningococcal disease and the ways it can be prevented.

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One Mother's Mission to Save Lives And Prevent Meningococcal Disease

July 26, 2014 · Christine Vora · 3 comments · 101 views

Meningococcal disease strikes quickly and kills 1 out of 10 of its victims. Today, his mother Lynn has devoted her life to educating others about the dangers of meningococcal disease and the vaccines that are available to prevent it. In today's #StateoftheImmUnion post, Lynn answers some of the most common questions she hears from parents. Get the facts for yourself at <http://bit.ly/2ab1t85>

How we can protect our children from meningococcal disease, and the ways it can be prevented. I will share how we can protect our children from meningococcal disease and the ways it can be prevented.

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Vaccinate Your Family

Published by Christine Gendler Vora (11 July 26 - 4)

Meningococcal disease strikes quickly and kills 1 out of 10 of its victims. Today, his mother Lynn has devoted her life to educating others about the dangers of meningococcal disease and the vaccines that are available to prevent it. In today's #StateoftheImmUnion post, Lynn answers some of the most common questions she hears from parents. Get the facts for yourself at <http://bit.ly/2ab1t85>



One Mother's Mission to Save Lives And Prevent Meningococcal Disease

[SHOTOFFPREVENTION.COM](http://shotofprevention.com)

Vaccinate Your Family

Published by Christine Gendler Vora (11 July 26 - 4)

Meningococcal disease is DETECTABLE. About 10-15% of people infected with meningococcal disease will die and 10-15% will suffer with disabilities such as hearing loss, brain damage or the loss of a limb due to amputation. It's a scary thought. Once infected, death can occur in as little as a few hours. For more information on how to best protect your family, visit our Vaccinate Your Family website at <http://bit.ly/2ab1t85>



Facebook Posts

Vaccinate Your Family

Published by Christine Gendler Vora (11 August 25 at 1:12pm - 4)

In 2012, Kimberly died as a result of meningococcal disease, even though her mother had her vaccinated and thought she was fully protected. While a meningococcal vaccine (MenACWY) is recommended for all 11-12 year olds, with a booster dose at age 16, there's now an additional meningococcal vaccine. The MenB vaccine, approved in 2014, could have prevented Kimberly's death. While the vaccine is now available to teens, parents may not know about it and providers may not offer it. Find out how to ensure your teen is fully protected from ALL the preventable strains of meningococcal disease here: <http://bit.ly/2ab1t85> #NIAM16



I Want Parents to Know About the Additional Meningococcal Vaccine That Could Have Saved My Daughter

[SHOTOFFPREVENTION.COM](http://shotofprevention.com)

[Learn More](#)

[Shot of Prevention](#)

Meningococcal disease strikes fast & is often deadly. With 2 kids in college this is

#WhyVax Reason#22 #NIAM16

[Shot of Prevention](#)

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Tweets

Follow #StateoftheImmUnion on Facebook & Twitter

State of the ImmUnion Program

STATE OF THE IMMUNION



Shot of Prevention @ShotofPrev · Aug 3

As a cancer survivor I got my 5 girls **#HPV** vaccine so I can help prevent them from getting cancer **#WhyIvax** Reason#3:



Vaccinate Your Family

Published by Christine Geisler Voss · July 8 ·

Boys need the HPV vaccine too and here's one reason why. Males are particularly vulnerable to HPV-related cancers of the mouth, tongue and throat. According to a new CDC report, the rates of mouth and throat cancers are 4 times higher in males than females. By 2020, experts believe that head and neck cancer will beat out cervical cancer as the most common HPV-related cancer. In this video, Scott shares his story as a survivor of HPV head and neck cancer. Please share it with others to warn them of the dangers of HPV. #StateoftheImmUnion <https://youtu.be/4Dxo739CAGg>



HPV Vaccination Roundtable:
Scott's Story

YOUTUBE.COM

26,855 people reached

Boost Post

Like Comment Share

LinkedIn Dawn Scott, Cordelia Monk and 342 others

Chromogel

188 shares



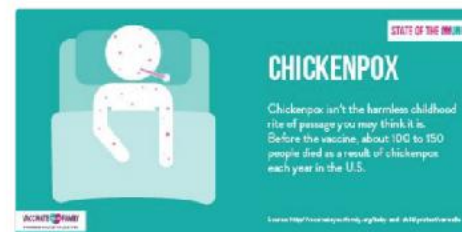
Shot of Prevention @ShotofPrev · Aug 21

#WhyIvax Reason#21: Because you never know who's preparing your food in that restaurant **#BetterSafeThanSorry** **#NIAM16**



Shot of Prevention @ShotofPrev · Sep 8

Before the vaccine 4 mill people got chickenpox each yr. Now hospitalizations are down 70% **#StateoftheImmunion**



Understanding Why Your Baby Needs a Hepatitis B Vaccine At Birth

June 22, 2015 · Christine Voss

2 Comments · Edit

Parents Often Underestimate the Risk of Hepatitis B

You can protect your child or adult with a hepatitis B vaccination

A guest post by Carolyn Akligis, President and Founder, Prevent Cancer Foundation

When you hold your newborn for the first time, it is a life-changing moment. An incredible sense of responsibility takes hold, a feeling of entering the safety and security of your child. And yet some parents don't realize that making sure your children receive the hepatitis B vaccine before their baby's first hospital visit is a critical first step in protecting your newborn.

Hepatitis B is a frequently misunderstood virus—you may mistakenly think your child is not at risk for hepatitis B because of misconceptions surrounding the transmission of this infectious. Research also shows how people are aware of the connection between hepatitis B and liver cancer.

In an effort to help save lives, the Prevent Cancer Foundation launched Think About the LIVES, an education campaign to raise awareness of the two deadliest viruses and cancer-causing hepatitis B and liver cancer, and how to prevent them. The hepatitis B virus spreads through blood or other bodily fluids that contain small amounts of blood (even tiny amounts too small to see) from an infected person. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), adults and children can contract hepatitis B in the following ways:

- At birth from their infected mother;
- Being bitten by an infected person;
- Touching open cuts or sores of an infected person;
- Sharing toothbrushes or other personal items used by an infected person; and
- Food that was chewed (for a baby) by an infected person.



Additionally, the hepatitis B virus can survive outside the body for at least seven days. This poses major risks for babies, who frequently place objects in their mouths and could come into contact with an infected object.

The CDC's recommended schedule for the hepatitis B vaccine will offer your child the greatest protection, including having your newborn vaccinated with the first of three doses before you leave the hospital. Nearly 90 percent of infants who contract hepatitis B never fully recover. You can avoid this risk by having your baby vaccinated. The hepatitis B vaccine not only offers protection against the virus, but ultimately can prevent cancer.

preventcancer
Stop Disease Before It Starts™



Shot of Prevention @ShotofPrev · Sep 8

According to 2013 Nat'l Health Interview only 1 in 4 adults 60+ received the shingles vaccine. **#StateoftheImmUnion**



PREVENT CANCER? HERE'S THE ANSWER.

CANCER PREVENTION WITH THE HPV VACCINE.

HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HPV) IS A COMMON, CANCER-CAUSING VIRUS SPREAD THROUGH INTIMATE SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT.



ABOUT
1 OUT OF 4
men and women in the U.S. are
currently infected with HPV.



ABOUT
14 MILLION PEOPLE
are infected every year.



9 IN 10
people will get HPV
in their lifetime.

EVERY YEAR IN THE U.S., HPV CAUSES:

OVER 300,000

precancerous lesions in women, the treatment
of which can cause infertility and affect a
woman's ability to carry a baby to term.

OVER 26,000

cases of mouth, throat, cervical and
other anogenital cancers
in men and women.



**2-3x
MORE
EFFECTIVE**

The HPV vaccine is recommended for
11 TO 12 YEAR OLD BOYS AND GIRLS because it is
TWO TO THREE TIMES MORE EFFECTIVE
when administered at that age.

**THERE ARE HIGHLY EFFECTIVE, SAFE VACCINES TO PREVENT
THIS DANGEROUS INFECTION.**



If more adolescents received the
HPV vaccine, we could prevent
**UP TO 99% OF
HPV-RELATED CANCERS.**



ONLY 0.0003% OF RECIPIENTS
have reported side effects – most of
which were "non-serious" symptoms
like headache, nausea and dizziness.

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY FROM CANCER.

Talk to your health care provider about the HPV vaccine for you and your loved ones.
The Vaccines for Children Program and most private insurance plans cover the cost of HPV vaccination.

VACCINATE YOUR FAMILY

A PROGRAM OF EVERY CHILD BY TWO

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: VACCINATEYOURFAMILY.ORG

State of the ImmUnion Report

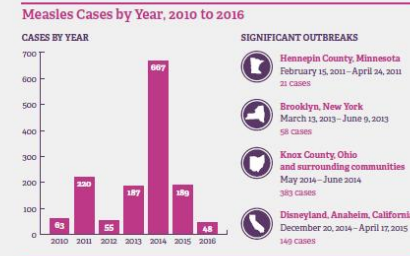
VACCINATE YOUR FAMILY
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2017

STATE OF THE IMMUNION

A REPORT ON VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES IN



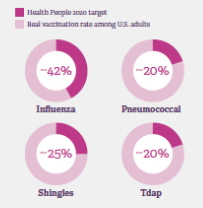
The U.S. is experiencing more outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases in recent years than we have in several decades. These diseases impact more than a child's health. When a child gets sick, it further spreading the disease. In early January 2017 Auburn, WA experienced an outbreak of mumps in an elementary school, requiring at least 44 children to get up-to-date on their vaccine or be

Optimal health is the key to employee success, yet many adult workers fail to take advantage of some of the most effective means of wellness and immunity: vaccines. Immunization coverage for adults remains low, even at 20 percent for some diseases.¹⁷

This fact has dire economic consequences. The United States spends nearly \$27 billion annually treating four vaccine-preventable diseases in

Adult Vaccination Rates for Common Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

Vaccination rates among U.S. adults are well below the targets established in the Healthy People 2020 report.¹⁸



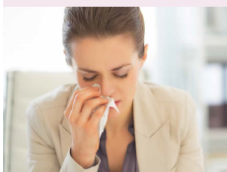
adults over the age of 50, including influenza, pertussis, pneumococcal disease, and shingles.¹⁸ These costs only include medical visits, hospitalizations and prescription coverage. They do not cover the astronomical costs of absenteeism and short-term disability from work to companies. Low vaccine rates contribute to substantial, yet preventable, national healthcare expenses and productivity losses.

As the American populace ages, we can expect that by 2020, one of every four workers will be over the age of 55.¹⁹ The costs for addressing the health challenges within this segment of the workforce are massive, as treatments for conditions like diabetes and heart disease number in the hundreds of billions of dollars annually.²⁰ Many current vaccines, as well as those in development pipelines, prevent diseases that can cause dangerous complications in individuals with chronic conditions. Vaccines are a proven means of preventing and reducing

DID YOU KNOW?

The Costs of Vaccine-Preventable Disease

Even if work days are not missed, productivity still suffers and costs the U.S. economy billions of dollars.²¹



The U.S. spends nearly \$27 billion annually treating four vaccine-preventable diseases in adults over the age of 50: influenza, pertussis, pneumococcal disease, and shingles.²²

JULY STATE OF THE IMMUNION | EVERY CHILD BY TWO | 18

Looking for more on the impact of vaccine-preventable diseases in your state? You can find more information on local vaccination rates on the American Academy of Pediatrics' **Map** and through CDC's **MapView**.


DID YOU KNOW?

The Costs of Vaccine-Preventable Disease

When you or a loved one contracts a preventable disease, the associated costs can range from the spent on treating the disease and its symptoms to days of school or work lost while waiting out a disease's incubation period.²³

INCUBATION PERIODS BY DISEASE

Chickenspox	Measles	Rubella
10-21 days	8-12 days	14-21 days
Diphtheria	Influenza	Whooping Cough
2-5 days	1-6 days	7-10 days
	Meningitis (bacterial)	
	2-10 days	



THE STATE OF OUR IMMUNION IS STRONG.

But it's not guaranteed. Vaccination rates can and must be improved.

Legislators can play an important role in ensuring that public health staff are prepared to face the threats of disease outbreaks and that their constituents are protected from dangerous infectious diseases. You can help by:

- Appropriating annual funding to the CDC, states and territories so that they are prepared to respond to existing and potential emerging vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks, conduct community outreach, educate providers and the public, maintain immunization registries and offer vaccine services to the community. Federal vaccine appropriations have not met the levels requested in annual justification reports from CDC and state appropriations are nearly non-existent. This has resulted in a loss of personnel and the disbanding of several highly effective statewide coalitions which supported immunization efforts for decades.
- Understanding the science behind vaccines and supporting the CDC-recommended immunization schedule. The public must be reassured that the timing of vaccines is carefully considered prior to CDC recommendation and that prior to and following licensure, vaccine safety is heavily monitored. There are many disproven myths about the safety of vaccines. You can be a champion and advocate simply by knowing how to respond to your constituents' concerns and offering evidence-based responses.
- Reaching out to your local immunization advocates, including hospitals, leading health care providers, colleges and universities, and immunization coalitions; and
- Connecting with your fellow legislators to support federal, state and local efforts.

JULY STATE OF THE IMMUNION | EVERY CHILD BY TWO | 19

- Synopsis of key challenges to maintaining and increasing vaccination rates
- Solutions for policymakers
- Additional policy/safety resources
- State Iz. Data

<http://www.vaccinateyourfamily.org/baby-and-child/protect/state-of-the-immunion>

State of the ImmUnion Report

- Sent to members of congress/media on the eve of the Trump address to congress in February
- Overview of Success of Vaccines/Cost Savings
- Visual of Map highlighting outbreaks
- Sections on progress in childhood, adolescent, adult, maternal vax
- Challenges, links to CDC and AAP maps with vaccine rates
- Vaccine Safety Talking Points, Resources (including AIM website)
- Asks – support vax funding base, support vax services when modifying Affordable Care Act, general support for vaccines and their safety

State of the ImmUnion Report - Promotion



Please visit our website to read full report and download the social media graphics toolkit:
<http://www.vaccinateyourfamily.org/baby-and-child/protect/state-of-the-immunion>

ECBT Letter to Congress Requesting Questions on Vaccine Position during HHS Secretary Price's Nomination Hearings



January 17, 2017

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chair
Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Senate Health, Education, Labor, and
Pensions Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
Chair
Senate Finance Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Member
Senate Finance Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Alexander, Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Murray, and Ranking Member Wyden:

Vaccines are one of the greatest success stories in public health and are among the most cost-effective ways to prevent disease. Indeed, we know that for each dollar invested in the U.S. childhood immunization program, there are over ten dollars of societal savings and three dollars in direct medical savings. Moreover, it is [estimated](#) that the benefits which will be accrued from the Vaccines For Children Program for children born over the first twenty years of the program will prevent 322 million illnesses, 21 million hospitalizations, 732,000 deaths, and nearly \$1.4 trillion in societal costs.

While immunization rates remain high for children, pockets of undervaccinated communities remain at risk of deadly vaccine-preventable diseases. Immunization rates for adolescents and adults remain woefully low, leaving them vulnerable to diseases including several deadly cancers, and to serving as vectors for the transmission of deadly diseases, such as pertussis to young children. It has been [reported](#) that the U.S. spends nearly \$27 billion annually treating four vaccine-preventable diseases that afflict adults over 50 years of age: influenza, pertussis, pneumococcal disease and shingles.

Costly outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases continue to challenge the nation's public health system. In the past three years 904 Americans were diagnosed with highly contagious measles, 4,625 cases of mumps were detected and pertussis (which is particularly deadly to infants) was diagnosed in more than 67,000 people. In addition, each year, more than 200,000 individuals are hospitalized and 3,000 - 49,000 deaths occur from influenza-related complications.

As the nominee for the Secretary of Health and Human Services it is our hope that Chairman Tom Price will support our nation's public health infrastructure by fostering investments in the science and technology that informs our national immunization policy, providing a safety net to uninsured poor adults for vaccine purchases, monitoring the safety of vaccines, educating providers and performing community outreach, and conducting surveillance, laboratory testing, and epidemiology to respond to disease outbreaks.

As you work through the confirmation process, we urge you to ensure that Chairman Price is committed to protecting the citizens of this nation from vaccine preventable diseases.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Aging Research
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association for Dental Research
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Immunization Registry Association
American Pharmacists Association
American Public Health Association
American Society of Health-System Executives

Letter signed by
90+ orgs. Three
members of
congress asked
vax questions
during hearing;
several more
requested
written
responses

Congressional Update: ECBT Sign on Letter – 4,500 signatures on letter to congress regarding vaccine \$\$

Every Child By Two News

Keeping you informed about vaccine-related news.

Call To Action:



Deadline 3 PM Today

We seek 520 more signatures to reach 5,000!

Every Child By Two asks you to join in urging Congress to protect crucial funding for immunization programs. Politics aside, if and when the Affordable Care Act is repealed, **nearly \$600 million in funds that currently support the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and subsequently state immunization activities will be eliminated.**

To ensure that legislators reallocate these funds, we ask you to click the link to add your name to Every Child By Two's [Vaccine Funding Support Statement](#).

In essence, Congressional funding for immunizations supports a vast web of activities, technology and personnel to keep vaccine preventable diseases at bay.

It supports essential activities such as:

- community outreach,
- disease surveillance,
- outbreak control,
- provider and public education,
- immunization registries,
- immunization service delivery,
- staffing and implementation of the Vaccines For Children (VFC) Program (which provides free vaccines to those who qualify under a separate funding stream).

Background:

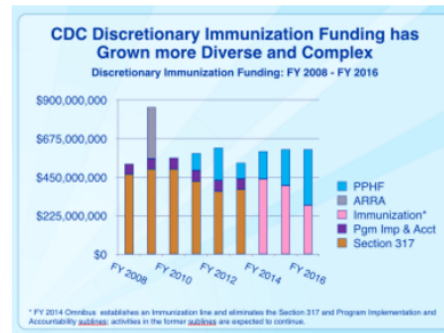
Historically, federal vaccine funding was allocated by Congress via what was called the "Section 317 line item" which is now being referred to as the "Immunization line item". These vaccine funds are appropriated to the CDC and used to support CDC activities and immunization programs in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, five major cities and eight territories.

Background:

Historically, federal vaccine funding was allocated by Congress via what was called the "Section 317 line item" which is now being referred to as the "Immunization line item". These vaccine funds are appropriated to the CDC and used to support CDC activities and immunization programs in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, five major cities and eight territories.

However, since 2010, the vaccine funding that was allocated under Section 317 has slowly been supplanted by the Affordable Care Act's Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF).

While the PPHF had initially supported various programs, above and beyond those that had previously been supported with 317 vaccine funding, today, more than half of immunization programmatic funding comes from PPHF. As displayed in the chart at below, PPHF now accounts for \$600 million of the federal funds devoted to immunizations, including over \$402 million supporting core immunization activities.



Current Situation:

As we prepare for the imminent repeal of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), we must ensure legislators take appropriate action to provide a continued and sustained investment into immunization programs. Political concerns aside, the focus here is not whether ACA should or should not be repealed. The focus is on preserving the funding for immunization programs.

While Congress debates the replacement package for ACA, it would be very easy for vaccines to get overlooked amidst many different healthcare priorities. However, if ACA is repealed without an intentional replacement of Prevention Funds back to the Section 317/Immunization program line, the results could be catastrophic to the nation's immunization programs.

Health programs would be impacted by:

- a minimum 45% cut in program dollars,
- massive public health layoffs,
- a massive reduction in state efforts to respond to food borne outbreaks,
- a massive interruption to efforts to prevent emerging infectious diseases like Ebola and Zika,
- a diminished ability to provide an adequate health response to natural and handmade disasters,
- the elimination of targeted health programs such as those that seek to eliminate Hepatitis b among infants, combat cancer-causing human papillomavirus (HPV), and support adult vaccine initiatives.

Claire Hannan, Executive Director of the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) states that

"Prevention and Public Health Funds are used as the cornerstone of public health emergency response activities. Without reallocation of those monies, immunization programs throughout the nation will not have the capacity to plan for and respond to emerging virus and disease threats."

Take Action:

If we want to ensure that the CDC, state and local health departments receive the funding they need to keep our communities safe from deadly but preventable diseases, then take action now. This is not a debate about the merits of repealing the Affordable Care Act (ACA), but rather a request that Congress not forget vaccines during the current and future fiscal year funding deliberations. Keeping our communities healthy is everyone's responsibility.

[Click here](#) to sign the Vaccine Funding Support Statement requesting that Congress preserve immunization funding as they work to negotiate the repeal and replacement of the ACA.

Congressional Support for Vaccines Evident in February Dear Colleague Letter - Drafted by ECBT

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

February 21, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

We write to you today to highlight the importance of immunizations, which protect Americans, especially infants and children, against outbreaks of serious and deadly infectious diseases. Vaccines save lives.

The introduction of vaccines was a turning point in our country's public health history. Vaccines led to the elimination of certain diseases, including polio and measles, from the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), before introduction of the polio vaccine in the United States, polio caused more than 16,000 cases of paralysis and nearly 2,000 deaths each year, on average.¹ Similarly, before the introduction of the measles vaccine in 1963, almost all children got measles by the age of 15, with up to 4 million Americans infected each year, according to the CDC. Measles is a highly contagious, airborne virus that can cause serious respiratory illness and life-threatening complications in children, such as pneumonia, ear infections, and even lifelong brain damage or deafness.² In 2000, as a result of a vaccine, the CDC declared measles to be eliminated in the United States.³ The pertussis vaccine is yet another example: Pertussis, also known as "whooping cough," is a bacterial infection that can be life-threatening in infants and young children, especially in children under one year, causing half of them to be hospitalized.⁴ The pertussis vaccine provides protection against the illness even among newborns who receive protective antibodies when their mother is vaccinated.⁵

Yet, already this year, states and communities around the country have reported outbreaks of measles, mumps, and whooping cough. The reasons for each outbreak vary, but we know that there are increasing trends around the country that have led to lower vaccination rates in some communities, allowing outbreaks of infectious diseases to take hold with increasing frequency.⁶ In 2014, for example, the United States had 667 measles cases in 27 states—a record high since the CDC declared the disease eliminated from the U.S. in 2000. These outbreaks have affected too many children and families, and they have presented unique challenges to doctors and health care providers—many of whom have only read about such illnesses in textbooks—as well as to the public health officials who seek to control outbreaks in each of our states.

The reemergence of vaccine-preventable diseases in the United States presents a public health threat, especially for those who rely on "herd immunity," which means protection from disease

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00056803.htm>

² <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/about/complications.html>

³ <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/about/history.html>

⁴ <https://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/fast-facts.html>

⁵ <https://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/pregnant/mom/get-vaccinated.html>

⁶ <https://www.cdc.gov/washington/testimony/2015/20150210.htm> and <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2015/01/13/peds.2014-2713>

through the vaccination of those around you. Herd immunity protects vulnerable individuals who cannot be vaccinated, including children who may be too young to receive a vaccination or those who have medical conditions. Herd immunity lessens the opportunity for an outbreak because it ensures a large portion of a community is immunized against a contagious disease.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) plays a critical role in rigorously reviewing vaccines and ensuring they are safe and effective, based on extensive testing. After FDA approval of vaccines, the CDC, based on expert advice from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, may provide recommendations for immunization schedules designed to protect individuals in the United States, including infants and children, and those most vulnerable to life-threatening diseases. These schedules are safe and approved by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.⁷ All 50 states have laws regarding immunization requirements for certain vaccines for children, with varying exemptions for medical, religious, or personal beliefs.⁸

Vaccines are our first line of defense against infectious diseases, many of which have no treatment or can be life-threatening. As medical research continues to advance, and scientists discover new medical breakthroughs and cutting-edge ways to treat disease and save lives, it is critical to recognize the importance of protecting public health against vaccine-preventable diseases. The science is clear: FDA-licensed vaccines are proven to be safe and effective, and save the lives both of those who receive them and vulnerable individuals around them. As Members of Congress, we have a critical role to play in supporting the availability and use of vaccines to protect Americans from deadly diseases.

We hope that you will consider the sound scientific information available, the public health challenges of disease outbreaks, and the successful examples of infectious disease prevention. Simply put, vaccines save lives. For additional information about vaccines, please have your staff contact members of our staff or refer to these evidence-based sources of information: CDC, <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/index.html>; or U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, <https://www.vaccines.gov/>.

Sincerely,



Lamar Alexander
Chairman



Patty Murray
Ranking Member



Greg Walcott
Chairman
House Energy & Commerce Committee



Frank Pallone Jr.
Ranking Member
House Energy & Commerce Committee



Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Chairman
House Energy & Commerce
Subcommittee on Health



Gene Green
Ranking Member
House Energy & Commerce
Subcommittee on Health

Break for Questions on Federal Issues

- Oversight & Government Reform Committee investigation of the CDC Whistleblower allegations:
- Background materials available on the www.ECBT.org website
 - http://www.ecbt.org/images/articles/Whistleblower_QA012017_updated3-6-17.pdf
 - http://www.ecbt.org/images/articles/Vaccine_Safety_and_African_American_Children.pdf
- March for Science
- ECBT participating in March for Science webinar to discuss federal activities in support of vaccines and advocacy efforts



Social Media Channels



shot of prevention
News & Views on Vaccines

community
doctors
fathers
questions
advice
opinions
concerns
experts
children
fathers
questions
help
health
family
share friends
mothers

TWEETS 4,725
FOLLOWING 1,935
FOLLOWERS 7,748
LIKES 282
LISTS 1



Shot of Prevention
@ShotofPrev

I'm Christine Vara, lead contributor at the Shot of Prevention blog, where parents, medical experts and #publichealth professionals discuss immunization news.

United States
shotofprevention.com
Joined July 2010

Tweets & replies Media

Shot of Prevention @ShotofPrev · 16h
National Vaccine Advisory Committee meets Feb 7-8th. See agenda & follow along here: ow.ly/6IEg308MNZp
#VaccineOversightExists

Shot of Prevention @ShotofPrev · Feb 6
Regardless of which team wins we're bet... spread of measles & flu in Houston on #S...
TeamVaccine

Shot of Prevention @ShotofPrev · Feb 3
Dr. Berman speaker at #FLImmySummit
@AutismScienceFd as a way to help add

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Vaccinate Your Family
January 25 · 🌐

Show you care about immunization programs! Add your signature to Every Child By Two's Vaccine Funding Support Statement and help ensure that the \$600 million that is currently funding federal and state level immunization programs is not eliminated if the Prevention and Public Health Fund is dissolved. We're more than halfway to our goal, but the deadline for signatures is fast approaching. Sign our Support Statement by Thurs, Feb 2nd at 3pm ET by clicking here: <http://tinyurl.com/SaveVaccineFunding>. For details on the funding issue, click here: <http://tinyurl.com/SaveVaccineFundingBlogMembers> of



Your Signature Needed to Preserve Congressional Immunization Funds
Every Child By Two asks you to join in urging Congress to protect crucial...

Facebook
Over 200,000 followers

Blog
Over 69,000 unique monthly visitors

Over 11 Million Reached Annually
With Social Media Messages

Please Help Us Keep You Informed:

- Sign up for:
- ECBT Daily News Clips/Monthly Top 5/Week in Review – email us at info@ecbt.org
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- Like Us on Facebook: Facebook/VaccinateYourFamily