

# CHENANGO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Send Your Children Back to School Protected from Serious Diseases**

*National Immunization Awareness Month is a reminder that we all need vaccines throughout our lives.*

Back-to-school season is here. It's time for parents to gather school supplies and back packs. It's also the perfect time to make sure your children are up to date on their vaccines.

To celebrate the importance of immunizations for people of all ages – and make sure children are protected with all the vaccines they need as they go back to school – the Chenango County Department of Health is joining with partners nationwide in recognizing August as National Immunization Awareness Month.

“Getting children all of the vaccines recommended by CDC’s immunization schedule is one of the most important things parents can do to protect their children from serious diseases,” said Mary Klockowski, RN, Immunization Coordinator at Chenango County Health Department, “If you haven’t done so already, now is the time to check with your child’s doctor to find out what vaccines your child needs.”

Vaccines protect against a number of serious and potentially life-threatening diseases.

When children are not vaccinated, they are at increased risk for diseases and can also spread diseases to others in their classrooms and community – including babies who are too young to be fully vaccinated and people with weakened immune systems due to cancer or other health conditions.

Talk to your child’s doctor to find out which vaccines are recommended for them before going back to school and schedule a visit with your provider prior to the start of the school year.

Immunization clinics are also held at the Chenango County Health Department every Wednesday in the month of August. Call (607) 337-1660 for an appointment.

Parents can find out more about the recommended vaccines at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/) or <http://www.co.chenango.ny.us/public-health/nursing/immunization.php> .

Persons with questions or requiring additional information may contact the  
Chenango County Health Department at **(607) 337-1660**.

*Promoting and protecting health, safety, and the quality of life in Chenango County*