

The Power of Collaboration in Uncertain Times

April 4, 2025

As we navigate through uncertainty, collaboration and partnership have become even more important than ever within our immunization community. From local partnerships to national immunization leaders, working together enables us to pool resources, share knowledge, and work towards our common goal: preventing disease in our communities.

In late March, Immunize Kansas Coalition (IKC) collaborated with other state immunization coalitions at the Voices for Vaccines “Coalitions Learning Collaborative” Summit in Georgia. During the conference, IKC representatives and fellow immunization collaborative members led a series of presentations that offered valuable insights into vaccine messaging, partner and volunteer engagement, community events, and best practices for working alongside community health workers. Following the presentations, attendees participated in group discussions, where they shared lessons learned and strategies to implement into their work at the state level.

With a growing measles outbreak in Kansas, IKC’s collaboration with their state health department has been vital in keeping Kansans safe and informed. In alignment with the department’s messaging, IKC launched the "[Protect Against Measles](#)" [campaign and webpage](#), which includes information on measles, outbreak maps, [social media graphics](#), [flyers](#), and messaging designed to raise awareness about the importance of the MMR vaccine. This campaign has been instrumental in IKC’s outreach efforts and serves as a valuable tool for other coalitions and organizations to utilize.

As we look ahead, collaboration remains crucial in ensuring our communities stay protected against vaccine-preventable diseases. United, we can adapt to change and strengthen our community of immunization champions!



MEASLES ISN'T "JUST A RASH"

Measles can be dangerous, especially for babies and young children

Photo Credit: CDC/REAP

As many as 1 in 20 children with measles will get pneumonia

Pneumonia is the most common cause of death from measles in young children.

Measles vaccination is 97% effective at preventing complications from measles.

Measles

it isn't "just a rash"

The measles virus is highly contagious and weakens the immune system, making it extremely dangerous, especially to children.

If one person has measles, up to 9 out of 10 people around them will also become infected if they are not protected.

SYMPTOMS

- Cough
- High Fever
- Runny Nose
- Red/Watery Eyes (Pink Eye)
- Itchy Red Spots Inside Mouth
- Reddened Rash

THE RISK

About 3 out of 10 people who get measles will develop complications, and 1 out of 5 unvaccinated people with measles will go sick enough to be hospitalized.

Each year, your child's unvaccinated severe complications like pneumonia or brain swelling.

From measles to the most common cause of death from measles in young children.

VACCINATION IS OUR BEST DEFENSE

This class of live measles vaccines are 97% effective, with one class 97% effective at preventing severe complications - keeping kids healthy & thriving.

OUTBREAK AREA-SPECIFIC MMR VACCINE RECOMMENDATIONS & ROUTINE SCHEDULE

State health departments have issued a 2+ MMR-1-1-13 vaccine recommendation for counties that are experiencing an outbreak of measles and related diseases.

QUESTIONS?

Learn more about measles and MMR vaccination.

If you or your child haven't received the measles vaccine, reach out to your healthcare provider to get vaccinated or to discuss the vaccine today.