



HAYS COUNTY LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE FIVE | JULY 2023

HCLHD invites residents to Back-To-School Fair

The Hays County Local Health Department (HCLHD) is gearing up to provide free and low-cost vaccines to the community.

Hays County Local Health Department (HCLHD) is hosting a back-to-school fair to encourage student vaccinations. The HCLHD is a participant in the Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) program, which provides low-cost vaccines to eligible children up until the age of 18 who meet the criteria.

"It is important that students receive their vaccinations during summer break," said Hays County Health Department Manager Matthew Gonzales. "Not only does this prepare the students for school, it makes it easier to obtain vaccinations without overwhelming local clinics."

HCLHD's back-to-school fair will give parents and students the chance to receive free vaccinations with the TVFC program. The fair will be held on August 5 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., just in time for the upcoming school year.

"We are very excited for the back-to-school fair," Gonzales said. "It's a wonderful opportunity for families to get their students vaccinated. We want to help schools create healthy learning environments and this is one way for the community to help take part in that."

Contact the HCLHD to find out how you can participate in the fair.

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Events this month

July 6: Kids Camp Outdoor Safety Education | 10:30 - 11:30 am | Dripping Springs Ranch Park & Event Center

July 8: Community Action Car Seat Giveaway | 9 am - 12 pm | Bonham Prekindergarten School in San Marcos

July 13: Healthy Hays Discussion Series: Nutrition | 6 - 8 pm | Barnabas Connection in Wimberley

July 15: Outdoor Safety Pop-Up Event | 11 am - 2 pm | San Marcos City Park

July 21: Outdoor Safety Pop-Up Event | 7:15 - 9:30 pm | James Adkins pool in Kyle

July 22: Outdoor Safety Pop-Up Event | 10 am - 1 pm | Sunfield Activity Center & Lazy River in Buda

Hays County
Local Health Department

HAYS COUNTY LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**DON'T WAIT
VACCINATE**

SKIP THE RUSH.
GET YOUR BACK-TO-SCHOOL VACCINATIONS NOW.



Hays County Local Health Department

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Following

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stay updated!**



HCLHD NEW BUILDING UPDATES

When the county purchased the 101 Thermon Drive building, officials knew that some changes were necessary to customize the building to our needs. The changes have been completed according to priority. High on priority were items such as the installation of a backup generator, fiber internet, and the modification of the existing floor plans to include exam rooms.

These projects are necessary for the operation of the department and to adhere to grant requirements. Lower priority items are items that are necessary, but not detrimental to operations. Our Director, Tammy Crumley, worked closely with Chris Deichmann, Facilities Maintenance Manager, to start the process of procuring contractors to complete this high-priority work.

The procurement process (primarily overseen by the Auditor's office) can be slow to ensure that we, the county, are adhering to the laws of the State of Texas. As such, many items were not able to begin until after contracts were awarded in early and mid-June.

One such project was the installation and movement of the generator. The generator will ensure that in a power outage, we can continue operations and that our equipment and materials that rely on electricity to control certain conditions will remain stable.

Another project that recently began is the remodeling of 3 offices into medical rooms. One room will be a medical utility room where pharmaceuticals and medical supplies will be stored. One room will be a standard medical exam room. One room will be a negative pressure room.



HCLHD NEW BUILDING UPDATES

The negative pressure rooms are used to prevent potentially contaminated air or other dangerous particles from flowing outside into non-contaminated areas. This works by decreasing the pressure inside the room to lower than in the other rooms. The airflow will allow the room to exhaust into a system that purifies the air before being released outside the facility.

Other projects that are in the process of being completed are the remodeling of bathrooms to comply with ADA standards, the completion of a bus stop provided by the City of San Marcos, the installation of fiber internet, and the installation of office equipment to meet the current needs of staff.



Above left: Local Health Department Manager, Matthew Gonzales, building tables for the conference room that will be used for staff meetings and trainings.

Above right: Bathroom amidst remodeling in order to meet ADA requirements.

EPI INSIGHTS

Mosquito Surveillance

With summertime upon us, so too are nature's deadliest creatures. Mosquitoes are small but mighty with their ability to harbor numerous lethal and debilitating infectious diseases. Capable of transmitting viruses such as West Nile Virus, Dengue Virus, Zika Virus, and Yellow Fever (to name a few), as well as parasites responsible for causing Malaria and Lymphatic Filariasis. Malaria alone was responsible for the worldwide deaths of approximately 625,000 in 2020 and 619,000 in 2021.

The great news is that there are several different ways that you can protect yourself and your family while enjoying the outdoors.

- Eliminating sources of standing, stagnant water around your home, work, or other places that you frequent prevents the laying of eggs and can help break the life cycle of the mosquitoes in your area.
- You can protect from bites by wearing pants and long-sleeved clothing while outdoors and/or use insect repellents that contain DEET or picaridin. This is especially important while taking that summertime trip to a beautiful tropical or subtropical country that most people are not aware of the moderate to high transmission levels of various mosquito-borne illnesses.
- When travelling to a foreign country, you can obtain all health considerations needed from the CDC's Travelers' Health tool. Here you can select your destination country and you will see any important travel health notices, recommended or required vaccinations/medications, and diseases and their preventions. All information is specific to the country selected and can be an excellent tool for preparing and packing for an out-of-country trip.

EPI INSIGHTS

Mosquito Surveillance

The Hays County Arboviral Surveillance Program is a collaboration between the Hays County Local Health Department and Hays County Development Services to actively trap mosquitoes throughout Hays County and have them tested at the State Public Health Laboratory in Austin for West Nile Virus, St. Louis Encephalitis, and Eastern Equine Encephalitis. These three viruses constitute the greatest public health risk from mosquitoes in our Central Texas region.

By actively surveying the mosquito population, we are able to detect infected mosquitoes before they infect humans and take action on alerting the public of an area where more infected mosquitoes may be. This allows the public to be more conscience about protecting themselves or choosing to avoid outdoor activities in that area until we are no longer detecting infected mosquitoes in that location.



On the left, you can see a Gravid Trap, which was designed by Dr. Paul Reiter of the Centers for Disease Control, Division of Vector-Borne Disease for the selective capture of gravid *Culex* mosquitoes. By limiting captures to this class of females, problems associated with calculation of minimum virus infection rates were reduced.

This photo was taken by Nick VandenBroek, a Hays County Development Services Environmental Health Specialist. It shows all parts of the trap and the location it is setup in has the ideal amount of dense vegetation for a successful trap.

Right and below: North Hays County EMS showing off some equipment they use at the Summer Health Fair.



Below: Baby Strokes Infant/Child Massage sharing information on the benefits of infant and child massage at the Summer Health Fair.



Above: HCLHD staff at the Summer Health Fair on June 10th. Below: Dripping Springs Lions Club provided free vision testing to the community at the Summer Health Fair.



Follow us on Facebook to stay updated!
Hays County Local Health Department

CONTACT LIST

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HCLHD Presents

BACK-TO-SCHOOL

Celebrate the grand opening of our new building and get vaccinated for the new school year!

Fair

**Aug
5**



**8 AM
-
1 PM**

**Vaccines available for TVFC eligible children ONLY.*

Hays County Local Health Department

101 Thermon Drive, San Marcos, TX 78666

Vaccines

Games

Vendors

Entertainment

- DTaP
- Hepatitis B
- Measles, Mumps and Rubella
- Pneumococcal
- Tdap/Td
- Hepatitis A
- Hib
- Meningococcal
- Polio
- Varicella

For More Information

localhealth@co.hays.tx.us

512-393-5520

DON'T WAIT VACCINATE

SKIP THE RUSH.
GET YOUR BACK-TO-SCHOOL VACCINATIONS NOW.

WHY?

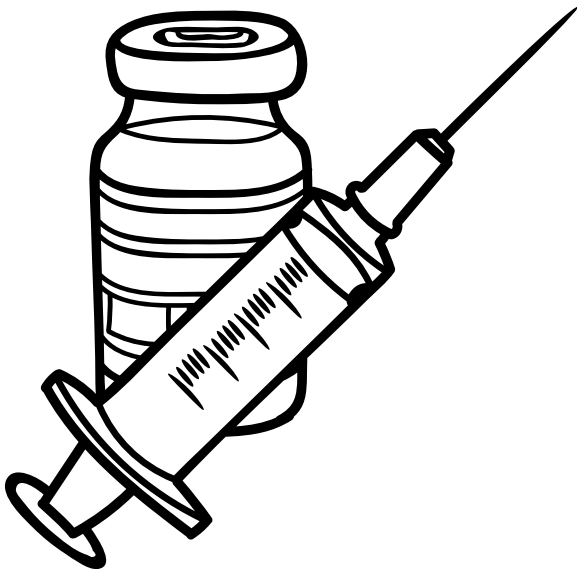
Vaccination protects students from diseases and keeps them healthy.

HOW?

TVFC is a program that helps uninsured and underinsured children get their vaccines.

WHEN?

The sooner you get your vaccines, the better. At the end of Summer, there is a rush to get vaccinated, causing long waits and overwhelmed clinics. Help our healthcare system by getting vaccinated early and skipping the rush.



There are 18 TVFC providers in Hays County. See next page to learn more about the TVFC program.

TEXAS VACCINES FOR CHILDREN (TVFC) INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) program provides low-cost vaccines to eligible children from birth through 18 years of age who meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Eligible for participation in the Medicaid program
- Enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*
- American Indian or Alaska Native (As defined by 25 U.S.C. 1603)
- Uninsured Children: Children who do not have health insurance
- UNDERinsured: Children who have commercial (private) health insurance, but
 - Coverage does not include vaccines; or
 - Covers only selected vaccines (TVFC-eligible for non-covered vaccines only); or
 - Health insurance covers all vaccines, but the plan has a fixed dollar limit or cap on the amount that it will cover for vaccines (TVFC-eligible once fixed dollar amount or cap is reached).

*Though children whose insurance pays for vaccines do not qualify for TVFC vaccine, CHIP children do qualify by special arrangement.

*Underinsured children must be seen by a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), Rural Health Clinic (RHC), or deputized clinic.

The following vaccines are currently offered through the Texas Vaccines for Children program:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DTaP• Hepatitis A• Hepatitis B• Hib• HPV	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Influenza• Measles, Mumps and Rubella• MMRV• Meningococcal• Pneumococcal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Polio• Rotavirus• Tdap/Td• Varicella (Chickenpox)
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TEXAS VACCINES FOR CHILDREN (TVFC)

PROVIDERS NEAR YOU

Call your selected provider to request an appointment today. Act fast, offices are beginning to get busy. The sooner you schedule an appointment to get your child vaccinated, the better.

Provider	Address	Phone Number
Ascension Seton Health - Buda	5235 Overpass Rd. 100 Buda, TX 78610	512-504-0888
Austin Regional Clinic - Buda	3420 FM 967 Ste B100 Buda, TX 78610	512-295-1608
Austin Regional Clinic - Center Street	22420 IH-35 Ste 203 Kyle, TX 78640	737-404-0347
Austin Regional Clinic - Dripping Springs	27600 Ranch Road 12 Bldg 1 Dripping Springs, TX 78620	512-829-9118
Austin Regional Clinic - Kyle	4100 Everett Dr. Ste 400 Kyle, TX 78640	512-295-1333
Christus Trinity Clinic San Marcos Primary Care	1340 Wonder World Dr. Ste 4301, San Marcos, TX 78666	512-353-6400
CommuniCare Health Center Kyle	2810 Dacy Lane Kyle, TX 78640	512-268-8900

TEXAS VACCINES FOR CHILDREN (TVFC)

PROVIDERS NEAR YOU


Call your selected provider to request an appointment today. Act fast, offices are beginning to get busy. The sooner you schedule an appointment to get your child vaccinated, the better.

Provider	Address	Phone Number
CommuniCare Health Center San Marcos	1941 S I-35 Ste 101 San Marcos, TX 78666	512-268-8900
CommuniCare Health Centers - Wimberley	203 Stillwater Ste 6 Wimberley, TX 78676	512-268-8930
Corridor Primary Care - Kyle	4221 Benner Ste 205 Kyle, TX 78640	512-392-1700
Corridor Primary Care San Marcos	601-B Leah Ave San Marcos, TX 78666	512-393-1700
Dripping Springs Pediatric	331 Sportsplex Dr. Ste C Dripping Springs, TX 78620	512-894-3737
Dripping Springs Pharmacy	100 Commons Rd. #1 Dripping Springs, TX 78620	512-858-7935
Pediatric Junction	211 Railroad St. Buda, TX 78610	512-312-5312

Discussion Series



For our 2023 Healthy Hays Discussion series, we want to bring the discussions to you and your organization! We are opening our program to the public to request educational events on various health topics.



During the 2022 series, we held **seven** events on **five** different topics in **three** different languages.

Water Safety

Immunization and Vaccines

Hispanic/Latino Health - Diet

Health Disparities in Deaf and Hard of Hearing Communities

New Parents Preparedness

If you or your organization would like us to plan a health forum or presentation, please contact us.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the Healthy Hays Discussion series, please contact us at localhealthhece@co.hays.tx.us.

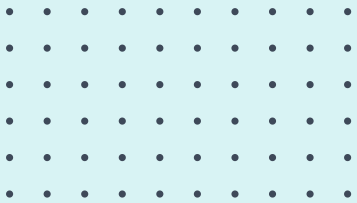
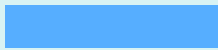


HAYS COUNTY
LOCAL HEALTH
DEPARTMENT



**Our
Office
is**

Moving
to a New Location



**101 Thermon Drive
San Marcos, TX
78666**



**TB and Indigent services will
continue at 401-A Broadway
San Marcos, TX 78666
until August 2023.**



**Follow us on Facebook to
stay up-to-date on our
move!**

**Contact Matthew Gonzales at
Matthew.Gonzales@co.hays.tx.us for more
information.**