



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road, Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“The CHCC Immunization Program Student Outreach Initiative”

As of July 10, 2020, the CHCC Immunization Program identified that there are over 800 Public School System students who are needing updated vaccinations. Previous CHCC efforts through drive thru options were primarily focused on ensuring newborn children up to three years of age, a vulnerable group, were vaccinated during limited access at CHCC during the beginning of our COVID-19 response.

To ensure that students are able to receive their updated vaccinations, the (CHCC) contacted the CNMI Public School System (PSS) to collaborate and conduct a school-based vaccination outreach for children to be brought up to date with recommended immunizations.

Due to the recent outbreak of COVID-19 and in line with the CHCC’s priority for ensuring patient safety through crowd prevention, social distancing, and other procedures aligned with COVID-19 safety measures, the Immunization Program has been working towards ensuring that services are still being provided to the people of the CNMI through innovative and unique options like the drive thru immunization in April 2020. The CHCC’s concern is and always has been to ensure the health of our people, and making clinical services available as needed despite challenges faced.

“The health of our youth is very important to us, we will assess tough situations and make decisions to make sure that we are able to provide the clinical services as needed like going out to the schools for immunization updates and having services available on the spot”, said CEO, Esther Muna.

As of July 24, 2020, the CHCC, as part of a strategic planning effort with PSS, committed to expanding access for parents and guardians to obtain updated Health Certificates that are needed for school enrollment. Online access is now available through the CHCC website (www.chcc.gov.mp) for parents to request a health certificate form, and to make payments online. For students who are up to date with vaccines, the online option allows them to access their health certificate without visiting the CHCC Immunization Program Office.

The CHCC/PCC strategy aims to provide immunizations via outreach services beginning July 28, 2020 and will run for 6 weeks ending on September 03, 2020. Outreach services are being offered as part of the CHCC's priority for expanding and ensuring continued access to critical health services. The CHCC/PSS plan calls for providing services at 14 different school campuses. Parents and guardians are encouraged to communicate with their child’s school to confirm outreach dates and locations. Further information on the outreach program will be released as well.

For more information about CHCC programs, please follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

This press release may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html>