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NIHHC TO HOLD BACK-TO-SCHOOL HEALTH FAIR ON JUNE 22

GOSHEN, IN, August 2023 – The Northern Indiana Hispanic Health Coalition (NIHHC), in partnership with the Indiana Department of Health and Goshen Community Schools, will hold a **back-to-school health fair** on **Saturday, June 22, from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM, at Goshen High School**, 401 Lincolnway E., Goshen, IN 46526. The health fair is **open to all**.

The following services will be offered:

- All required and recommended **vaccines for children ages 5 and up and adults**, including:
 - Dtap (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis), Kinrix (Dtap & IPV), Hep A, Hep B, Polio, MMR (measles, mumps, rubella), Meningitis (ACYW & B), Varicella, Pneumonia (PCV20), and COVID-19
- **Health screenings** (cholesterol, glucose, A1C, blood pressure, BMI), with results provided immediately
- Registration for a free **mammogram and pap smear** for women who qualify for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (BCCP)
- **School supplies** for children who are present
- **Tacos** for all attendees who receive at least one service
- **\$50 gas gifts cards** for a family of four who receives services

All services are free of cost. For vaccines, an ID of any kind is required. Attendees should bring their vaccination records if available. Community members are encouraged to register now for their appointments to get vaccinations by calling 1-877-21-SALUD (72583) or by sending a WhatsApp message to NIHHC’s health hotline at (574) 206-3938.

NIHHC welcomes all families to catch up on routine immunizations and health screenings. Kindergartener routine vaccination coverage in the U.S. is still lower than pre-pandemic levels at 93%, and the child vaccination rate for all children in Elkhart County in the last school year was just 75.6%.

“The next school year will be here before we know it, and there is limited time to get up to date,” said NIHHC Executive Director, Liliana Quintero. “This is a great opportunity to help our kids get a healthy start to a new school year and take care of our most important asset—our health!”

Preventative measures like vaccines and screenings are vital to creating a healthy community that includes students, families, teachers, and school staff. Community members will also receive **assistance on understanding vaccination schedules and education on their health screening results**, so they can make informed decisions about their next steps and take charge of their health.

NIHHC's health fairs provide a holistic approach to health with accessible, convenient, bilingual, and culturally competent services to meet the unique needs of those facing barriers to healthcare. NIHHC reaches the community by partnering with trusted influencers and messengers, leaders, health care providers, and community organizations and agencies.

The Back-to-School Health Fair is made possible in part by the generous support of Well Foundation-Goshen, Bowen Center, Indiana Department of Health's Indiana Health Equity Council, Beacon Health System, Elkhart Community Schools, Elkhart County Health Department, First State Bank, JBS Prepared Foods, and May Oberfell Lorber LLP.

The Northern Indiana Hispanic Health Coalition's mission is to improve the health and wellness of underserved communities by providing preventative health screenings, education, and advocacy with a primary focus on Hispanics.

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If you would like more information on NIHHC's activities and programs, please call NIHHC at 574-522-0966 or toll free at 1-877-21-SALUD, or visit our website at www.nihhc.com. If you have questions regarding health issues, please call NIHHC's bilingual health hotline at 574-206-3938. Visit NIHHC's Facebook page for up-to-date information regarding important health topics and events.