

GEORGE LATIMER, Westchester County Executive

Date: August 18, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Catherine Cioffi

Communications Director

Office - (914) 995-2932

Cell- (914) 954 -5579

CCioffi@westchestergov.com

Caren Halbfinger

Office- (914) 813-5013

Cell- (914) 224-7651

Cqh4@westchestergov.com

WESTCHESTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFERS FREE BACK TO SCHOOL VACCINES BY APPOINTMENT AUG 24 & 31

*Reminds Parents and Guardians to Schedule Appointments with Their Child's Provider
Before School Starts*

(White Plains, NY) – During National Immunization Awareness Month, the Westchester County Department of Health reminds parents and guardians that now is the right time to plan a visit with their child's healthcare provider. This will help ensure children have the vaccines they need for a healthy start in school, whether they are at home or in the classroom.

For families with no insurance, ChildHealth Plus or Medicaid, the Westchester County Health Department can help. **Call the County Health Department at (914) 995-5800 to find out if you qualify for vaccines at no charge. Visits are by appointment only on Aug. 24 or 31 at the Health Department clinic at 134 Court St. in White Plains.**

All parents and guardians should check on whether they or their children have missed any vaccines due to appointments postponed because of COVID-19 concerns. Some vaccines require more than one dose.

Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: "Especially during a pandemic, it is vital that all of us remain up-to-date on all our vaccines. I encourage parents and guardians to catch up with any vaccines their children have missed. By doing so, we can prevent an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable illness like pertussis or measles that could keep children from learning."

Amler also recommends pregnant women speak to their healthcare provider about vaccinations that can protect them and their baby from serious diseases like whooping cough and flu, and reminds women that one of the advantages of breastfeeding is that it helps protect newborns before they are old enough to be fully vaccinated.

Amler said: "Vaccinations and breastfeeding pass along antibodies that provide short-term protection for babies until they are ready for their own vaccines. Ask your doctor what vaccines you need."

Navigators available through the Health Department can help families and individuals sign up for the health insurance they need. Those without a regular doctor can learn where to go for ongoing primary care. For more health insurance information, call (914) 995-6350.

About Westchester County

Westchester County, located in the heart of the historic Hudson Valley, covers 500 square miles and has a population of just under a million. Originally home to Native Americans, who were members of the Lenape tribe, it is today a rich mix of many cultures and landscapes. The County is a blend of bustling cities, quaint villages and picturesque towns as well as open spaces and a network of beautiful parks. Westchester is made up of 6 cities, 19 towns and 20 villages. Westchester County is known for top-notch public schools, and a high quality of life. The County is also an intellectual capital, boasting a highly educated workforce, competitive colleges and universities, Fortune 500 companies, world changing non-profits, and cutting-edge research centers. Westchester is led by County Executive George Latimer, who took office in January 2018 as the ninth County Executive. Using inclusion and openness as a foreground, Latimer is fighting to make Westchester a destination for all people to live, work and enjoy. Learn more about Westchester County by visiting www.westchestergov.com

Follow Westchester County



www.facebook.com/wchealthdept

www.twitter.com/wchealthdept

[Facebook](#) - [Twitter](#) - [YouTube](#) - [Instagram](#)

###