

GEORGE LATIMER, Westchester County Executive

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WESTCHESTER COUNTY SCHEDULES FREE HEPATITIS A VACCINE CLINICS

Restaurant and Child Care Workers Encouraged to Sign Up

(White Plains, NY) – To help protect themselves and the people they serve and care for, the Westchester County Department of Health encourages restaurant and childcare workers to register for a free Hepatitis A vaccine at one of two County clinics, to be held Saturday and Tuesday in White Plains.

“Getting two doses of this vaccine can provide lifetime provide protection from Hepatitis A,” said Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD. “It can also prevent this infection from spreading to family members, young children in their care and to restaurant patrons they serve.”

Clinic hours are Saturday, Aug. 11, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Tuesday, Aug. 14, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at 134 Court St., White Plains. To schedule an appointment, go to www.health.ny.gov/gotoclinic/60.

“As a restaurateur in White Plains for over 30 years, I’m glad the Westchester County Health Department is offering this vaccine and I encourage restaurant workers to get it,” said Peter Herrero, owner of Sam’s of Gedney Way. “We need to be proactive in protecting ourselves, our loved ones and the community where we live and work.”

“This vaccine can help protect both childcare workers and the youngest babies and children they care for, so we are happy to endorse this effort and to get the word out about these clinics,” said Kathy Halas, Executive Director of the Childcare Council of Westchester, a not-for-profit clearinghouse for child care resources and advocate for quality, affordable and accessible care.

Hepatitis A is a highly contagious liver infection that can spread when a person who is infected with the virus fails to practice good hand hygiene after using the toilet, and then handles food and beverages served to others. A person who is infected can spread the virus without being aware of his or her infection.

Anyone who gets a first Hepatitis A vaccine at these clinics will need a second dose of vaccine at least six months later. Those who do not have health insurance coverage for this vaccine can make an appointment for the second dose at a Westchester County immunization clinic.

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

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