

November 2020

Dear Friend of the Immunization Action Coalition (IAC),

This year has been a remarkable milestone in IAC's 30-year history. The public television documentary *Protecting Health: Saving Lives*, chronicling IAC's three decades of vaccine advocacy and education, was filmed in February and is now airing on local PBS stations across the country. COVID-19, of course, has surged into public health. And all IAC's unique services continue to support healthcare professionals and patients in a pandemic year when the safe and effective delivery of vaccines is more critical than ever.

The documentary, produced by Visionaries, Inc. and hosted by Sam Waterston, covers the history of the Immunization Action Coalition from 1990 to 2020. It tells the story of my early work during the 1989–90 measles epidemic, weaves in valuable information about vaccines, and describes the challenges presented today by anti-vaccination messaging. All of us at IAC are very proud of *Protecting Health: Saving Lives* and hope you will take the time to watch it on our website at www.immunize.org/film.

As the nation's nonprofit leader in making sure immunization providers have the accurate and up-to-date information they need, IAC is being called upon by our partners throughout the immunization community to collaborate in response to the spread of COVID-19. With a medical education grant from the vaccine company Seqirus, we have created a new website at www.mass-vaccination-resources.org. It lists high-quality resources to help healthcare settings conduct drive-through and other operations for efficiently immunizing communities against influenza and COVID-19. National media requests for interviews and background information have exploded. We are proud that IAC's Dr. L.J. Tan and Dr. Kelly Moore have appeared often on outlets such as BBC News, CNN, National Public Radio, *Newsweek*, *The Atlantic*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *USA Today*.



Dr. Wexler in 1995, working in a community health clinic

Despite the additional demands of COVID-19 vaccine-related issues, we have sustained the bedrock activities on which immunization providers rely. During the past 12 months, 9.7 million visitors consulted www.immunize.org, downloading 3.5 million copies of staff- and patient-education materials and 3.6 million copies of Vaccine Information Statements and their translations. And the more than 50,000 subscribers to our weekly email newsletter, *IAC Express*, received 69 issues of timely, practical information they need to take care of their patients. The enclosed summary page describes IAC's major activities that help us improve our delivery of safe and effective vaccination services nationwide.

Please consider making an end-of-the-year contribution to IAC as we continue our work “protecting health and saving lives.” Your generosity has never been more needed than it is now, during this pandemic.

With warmest wishes of health and happiness for you and your family and friends, and with deep gratitude for your support,

DEBORAH L. WEXLER, MD
Executive Director

The Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) is a nonprofit organization with a 501(c)(3) tax status. Our EIN is 41-1768237. Donations to IAC are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Our administrative and fund-raising costs are approximately 10% of revenue.

The Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) works to increase immunization rates and prevent disease by creating and distributing educational materials for health professionals and the public that enhance the delivery of safe and effective immunization services.

The Immunization Action Coalition plays a vital role within the nation's immunization community

Authoritative Educational Materials

- **Educational materials for healthcare professionals and patients** – 3.5 million downloads annually
- **Vaccine Information Statements and their translations** – 3.6 million downloads annually
- **Ask the Experts Q&As** – 1.5 million visits annually
- **Vaccinating Adults: A Step-by-Step Guide** – 142-page comprehensive guide for healthcare settings that vaccinate adults
- **Hepatitis B: What Hospitals Need to Do to Protect Newborns** – comprehensive guide for protecting newborns from hepatitis B
- **Personal immunization record cards** – durable, easy-to-use, vaccination record cards for patients
- **Laminated U.S. immunization schedules** – durable, up-to-date schedules for providers

Powerful Communication Channels

- **www.immunize.org** – makes available all of IAC's free materials; 26,000 visits per day
- **IAC Express** – free news and information emailed weekly to 52,000 opt-in subscribers
- **www.vaccineinformation.org** – clearly presented, up-to-date information for the general public; 3,500 visits per day
- **www.mass-vaccination-resources.org** – new website listing top resources to help clinics and others start mass vaccination efforts
- **Technically Speaking** – Dr. Wexler provides guidance about technical aspects of immunization in the monthly newsletter *Vaccine Update* from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.
- **Live video webinars** – development and presentation of webinars by experts; more than 3,000 attendees during 2020
- **Medical education programs** – collaborations with continuing education (CE) providers, including Medscape, to create and deliver CE programs for healthcare professionals

High Level Leadership

- **National Network of Immunization Coalitions** – 137 coalitions from across the U.S. have joined IAC's National Network of Immunization Coalitions with contact information on www.immunizationcoalitions.org.
- **ACIP Working Groups** – IAC experts provide consultation to many working groups of CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.
- **317 Coalition and Adult Vaccine Access Coalition** – IAC serves in leadership roles on steering committees.
- **National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit** – IAC manages this partnership with CDC and HHS Office for Infectious Disease Policy and HIV/AIDS to address and resolve adult and influenza immunization issues along with more than 700 partners representing 130 public and private organizations.
- **Professional Publications** – IAC experts contribute articles and reviews to major medical publications and periodicals.

Effective Advocacy

- **State immunization laws** – IAC's detailed and comprehensive tracking of current state immunization laws is an invaluable tool for our advocacy and for that of our partners.
- **State legislative advocacy** – IAC advises state immunization advocates in all 50 states of proposed adverse changes to immunization laws, and provides assistance as needed.
- **Mandatory influenza vaccination of healthcare personnel** – IAC's Influenza Vaccination Honor Roll currently includes 1,143 healthcare institutions that have established policies mandating influenza vaccination of healthcare personnel.
- **Hepatitis B vaccine birth dose** – IAC's Hepatitis B Birth Dose Honor Roll currently includes 524 birthing institutions that have achieved a 90% hepatitis B vaccine coverage rate for newborns prior to hospital discharge.
- **Influenza vaccination for older adults** – IAC partners with Seqirus to remind healthcare professionals about the importance of annual influenza vaccination for adults age 65 and over.
- **MenACWY dose #2 and the 16-year-old visit** – IAC collaborates with Sanofi Pasteur to remind healthcare professionals about the importance of giving the second dose of MenACWY at age 16 along with other vaccines recommended at this age.
- **MenB vaccination for college students** – IAC's MenB Vaccination Honor Roll currently lists 265 colleges in 36 states that require or recommend MenB vaccine to protect students, including 40 that require it.

Extensive Partnerships – IAC works closely with organizations from every part of the immunization community, including federal agencies, state and local health departments, professional societies, nonprofits, and industry, as well as private sector healthcare systems and groups.

Sought-After Speakers – IAC experts have given more than 30 presentations at international, national, state, and local conferences so far in 2020.

Media Communications – IAC staff members are often called on to provide accurate information to print, radio, television, and internet news media. Some recent contacts with media include CNN, Fox News, National Public Radio, *Newsweek*, *The New York Times*, *The Telegraph*, *The Washington Post*, *The Washington Times*, *Time Magazine*, *USA Today*, and Web MD.



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