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Public Information Release

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H1N1 CLINICS CONTINUE NEXT WEEK

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The Health District will hold H1N1 vaccination clinics the next three consecutive Tuesdays on December 29, January 5, and January 12. All three of these clinics will be open to everyone from 1pm until 7pm at the old Steve and Barry's store at the mall in Piqua. H1N1 vaccine is completely free at the Health District's clinics.

To date, the Health District has held sixteen H1N1 clinics and has given 13,000 vaccinations.

The Health District has plenty of vaccine and they are advising against lining up outside the clinic before it opens. "It's cold and there really isn't a reason to stand outside," said Luken. "We have lots of vaccine and we will schedule more clinics each week that will be open to everyone." Although the clinic is now open to everyone, high-risk people, such as pregnant women and everyone under 24 years old, are still strongly encouraged to come out and get the vaccine. Second doses for kids 9 years old and under will also be administered during the clinics. First and second doses for kids 9 and under should be separated by 28 days.

The Health District will continue to hold H1N1 clinics until demand is satisfied. "We are ready and willing to do whatever it takes to keep people healthy and safe throughout the entire flu season," Luken said. Luken cautions people not to become numb to H1N1 news. "You hear the same message over and over – to come get your H1N1 vaccine. But people keep putting it off. People are still getting sick and some are dying."

The flu season usually runs through March and has several peaks in the number of cases. "We have three more months of flu season ahead. This is still the perfect time to get the vaccine," said Luken.

For more information about the H1N1 flu and the upcoming vaccination clinics, visit the Health District's website at www.miamicountyhealth.net or call 937-440-8105.