



COUNTY OF ANOKA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Anoka County Community Health Vaccinates First Responders against H1N1

The Anoka County Community Health and Environmental Services (CHES) department has begun the process of providing H1N1 nasal flu vaccine to eligible local EMS/First Responders personnel. The clinics were held Wednesday, October 14, and Thursday, October 15, at the National Sports Center in Blaine. Over 250 EMS/First Responders personnel received the H1N1 vaccination. The Anoka County CHES staff organized the clinic and administered the vaccine.

“These emergency medical services personnel include police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians,” said Commissioner Rhonda Sivarajah, chair of the county’s Human Services Committee. “They’re the people who respond to calls for help, and therefore are on the front lines in the fight against H1N1. It’s in everyone’s best interest that they’re healthy as we go forward this flu season.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), at www.cdc.gov, FluMist is approved for use in healthy people 2-49 years of age who are not pregnant. Future clinics will provide FluMist vaccination to EMS personnel unable to attend last week’s clinics, and

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those eligible priority groups as established by the Minnesota Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Injectable vaccination clinics are also planned for eligible priority groups as supply becomes available.

For resources and more information, please visit www.readyanokacounty.us, www.cdc.gov, and www.flu.gov.

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