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Free or low-cost mobile health services offered in Sarasota County

The Sarasota County Health Department's Health In Motion Mobile Medical Unit will travel to 14 sites in Sarasota County during May to offer free H1N1 (swine) flu vaccines along with its other regular services. The mobile unit also will travel to the Arizona Multi-Services Center, 3900 N. Washington Boulevard in Sarasota on Monday, May 17, from 1-3 p.m.

In addition, the Health In Motion staff will begin providing childhood immunizations at the Grande Court Apartments, 5203 Greenwood Ave., North Port, on Wednesday, May 12. The June schedule will be announced later next month.

Regular services include diabetes education and screening, blood pressure tests, pregnancy testing, HIV and tuberculosis testing, adult immunizations and health education to those who lack medical insurance and do not have a health care provider. Assistance with finding a permanent health care provider also is available.

No appointments are needed. Some services are free, including HIV rapid testing with results in 20 minutes. Other services are offered on a sliding fee scale based on income. Licensed volunteer physicians from the Senior Friendship Centers provide basic medical care when the mobile medical unit is at the Salvation Army in Sarasota. A registered nurse is available at all sites.

The following is a schedule of dates for the mobile unit:

SARASOTA

Thursdays, May 6 and 13, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
Thursday, May 20, 9:30 a.m.-noon
Salvation Army
1400 10th St.

Monday, May 3, 9:30 a.m.-noon
McCown Towers for Seniors
1300 Boulevard of the Arts

Monday, May 3, 1-3 p.m.
La Canasta Market
2268 Fruitville Road

Monday, May 10, 9:30 a.m.-noon
Selby Goodwill Jobs Center
1781 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way

Monday, May 10, 1-3 p.m.
Newtown Estates Park
2800 Newtown Blvd.

Monday, May 17, 1-3 p.m.
Arizona Multi-Services Center
3900 N. Washington Blvd.

LAUREL

Wednesday, May 19, 2-5 p.m.
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) food distribution program
Sandra Sims Terry Community Center
509 Collins Road

NOKOMIS

Wednesday, May 19, 9:30 a.m.-noon
The Community Pharmacy of Sarasota County
225 Tamiami Trail S.

VENICE

Tuesdays, May 4 and 18, 9:30 a.m.-noon
Goodwill Center – The Rialto
650 S. Tamiami Trail

Tuesdays, May 4 and 18, 1-3 p.m.
Habitat for Humanity Retail Store
1400 Ogden Road

ENGLEWOOD

Tuesdays, May 11 and 25, 9:30 a.m.-noon
Englewood Goodwill Center
410 Indiana Ave.

Tuesdays, May 11 and 25, 1-3 p.m.
Englewood Helping Hands
700 E. Dearborn St.

NORTH PORT

Friday, May 7, 9:30 a.m.-noon
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) food distribution program
St. Nathaniel's Episcopal Church
4200 S. Biscayne Drive

Wednesday, May 5, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
Wednesday, May 12, 9:30 a.m.-noon
Walmart Super Center
17000 Tamiami Trail

Wednesday, May 12, 1-3 p.m.
Grande Court North Port Apartments
5203 Greenwood Ave.

There will be no services in May at the following location: Orange Avenue Housing Authority property, 1912 N. Orange Ave, Sarasota.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000, or visit www.sarasotahealth.org to view the calendar, get more information on the H1N1 (swine) flu vaccination campaign or submit a special event request. Anyone without computer access can visit a health kiosk at any of the eight Sarasota County libraries or at any Senior Friendship Center.

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