

from the Heart



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Annual Report Now Available

We are proud to announce the availability of the 2011-2012 Annual Report of the Children's Services Council of Martin County, which works to fund programs that make a measurable impact of the quality of life of Martin County residents of all ages. We encourage all residents to read this report to learn more about this impact. To download, log on to www.cscmc.org. For hard copies, visit the Council office at 101 S.E. Central Parkway in Stuart. Thank you for creating a foundation of support for Martin County's youngest citizens!



ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012

Available for free download at www.cscmc.org.



The Need: Immunization

Immunizations have protected millions of children and adults from potentially deadly diseases and helped to dramatically change the horizon of health in America. That's why health officials in Martin County continue to track and support efforts to keep our children free of polio, Hepatitis B, measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria and other potentially devastating diseases.

Although proof of a list vaccines is required for entering kindergarten and seventh grade, many parents worry about what some believe are links to such disorders as autism. However, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that such concern originated with a specific preservative, which was removed from all vaccines except for one type of influenza vaccine in 2001. Thus, officials contend that immunizations are a smart, safe and important responsibility for all parents.

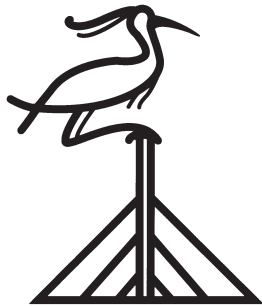
The Children's Services Council supports and encourages immunization. The Martin County Health Department provides required immunizations for eligible children from birth to 18 at no charge. Is your child up to date?

The Children's Services Council of Martin County is an independent district, approved by voters by referendum in 1988, to enhance the lives of the children of Martin County and to enable them to attain their full potential by supporting 34 impactful programs for youth in our community. Learn more about your agency at: www.cscmc.org and www.facebook.com/cscmc.

The Response:

Education and Family Support

Family Support Programs:



Early Learning Coalition
 Of Indian River, Martin and Okeechobee Counties, Inc.



Dunbar Center: Early Head Start

Easter Seals: Early Steps

Helping People Succeed: Healthy Families

Martin County Healthy Start Coalition

Whole Child Connection

Martin County Health Department

The agencies funded by the Children's Services Council of Martin County often provide a comprehensive level of support for families in Martin County to ensure our children grow up healthy. While the school nurse program works tirelessly throughout the school year and summer to ensure vaccines are up to date, other agencies that administer programs focusing on early learning, child abuse prevention and connecting families to resources they need also play a big role. Parents are busier than ever, and sometimes don't know resources are available to help children in Martin County. That's why it's so important to have as many community partners working together to make sure children receive their immunization shots and avoid any obstacles in their path to success.

Florida KidCare

Many parents are unaware of a wonderful resource: Florida KidCare.

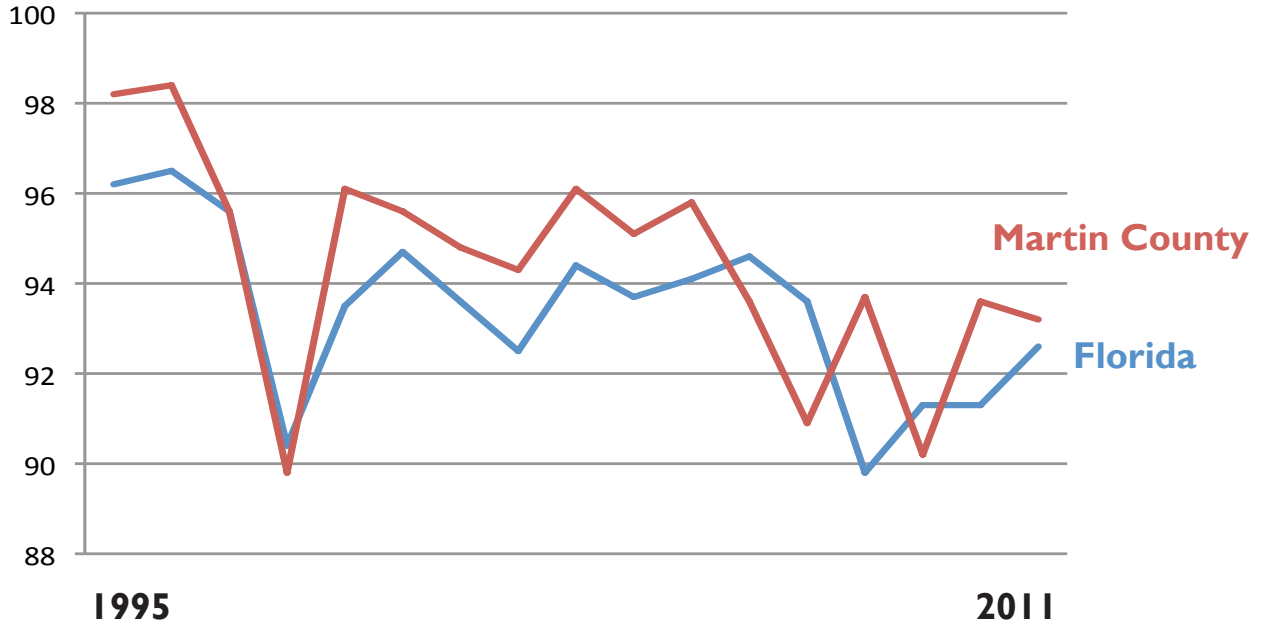
If you need health insurance for your child, just apply online at www.floridakidcare.org or call (888) 540-5437 for an application.

Having trouble navigating the system? The Whole Child Connection can help. Call (772) 463-2168.

The Impact:

Healthy Children

**Immunization
 (Percent of Entering Kindergarteners Fully Immunized)**



In 2011, Martin County ranked among the bottom 18 counties for the lowest percent of entering kindergarteners fully immunized.

What's required?

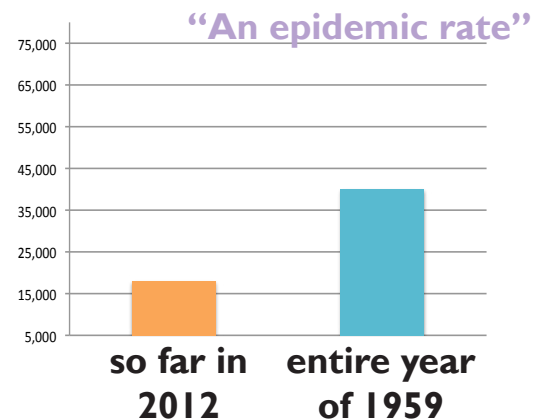
Public/Non-Public Schools, Kindergarten through 12th Grade:

- Four or five doses of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTaP) vaccine
- Two or three doses of hepatitis B (Hep B) vaccine
- Three, four, or five doses of polio vaccine
- Two doses of measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine
- Two doses of varicella vaccine for kindergarten and grades one through four
- One dose of varicella vaccine for grades five through 11

In addition to kindergarten through 12th grade requirements, students must have the following vaccinations:

- One dose of tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis (Tdap) vaccine in grades seven through 10

Number of cases of whooping cough in U.S., as reported by NYTimes on July 20, 2012



Success Story

August is a busy time for Martin County Health Department School Health nurses and staff as they gear up for the start of the new school year.

Throughout the academic year, School Health nurses work in the schools to provide health screenings, trainings and education for students and school staff. The nurses are dedicated to keeping students healthy, so they can live up to their learning potential.

Part of keeping children healthy includes making sure that kids get recommended and required vaccinations. Vaccines help prevent serious viruses including chicken pox and pertussis, also known as whooping cough.

Assuring that children receive the required vaccinations for school entry requires a collaborative effort by the Health Department, School District and community partners.

Education and promotion about required immunizations for the upcoming school year begins in April and continues throughout the summer. The Health Department offers appointments and hosts immunization clinics to answer questions and assist parents in achieving vaccination requirements.

Immunizations are free for children and adolescents 18 years old and younger through the Vaccines for Children program. Immunization records are logged into Florida Shots, the state data bank. Collecting, coordinating and entering this data is a huge task when you realize that more than 2,000 students are expected to begin kindergarten and 7th grade in Martin County public schools this year.

More information about immunizations and school health is available at: www.MartinCountyHealth.com.

Events & Meetings

August 7: Free immunization clinic held by the Martin County Health Department, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., 16401 S.W. Farm Road, Indiantown

August 10: Free immunization clinic held by the Martin County Health Department, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 3441 S.E. Willoughby Blvd., Stuart

Note: Immunizations are also available by appointment by calling (772) 221-4000.

August 27: Council meeting at 10 a.m.

August 30: Grandparents Day Essay Contest entries due! Log on to www.cscmc.org to learn more.

Want to schedule a free Lunch and Learn for your club or homeowners' association? Contact Suzanne Wentley at swentley@cscmc.org!

Council News

CHALLENGE GRANT: The SPLASH (Swimming Provides Learners with Aquatics Safety & Health) program, which offers free swimming lessons to children who could not afford it, has been an overwhelming success! So far this year, we've already provided 315 swimming lessons—enough to deplete the available funds.

Thankfully, the Martin County Community Foundation has stepped in with a matching grant. For a tax-deductible donation of \$50 you can provide swimming lessons to **TWO** children to reduce the risk of drowning and possibly save their lives! We encourage you to donate today at the address below. Thank you!

GRANDPARENTS DAY ESSAY CONTEST: Open to both young and old, this essay contest asks grandparents about the most important lesson they've taught their grandchild and asks grandchildren the most important lesson they've learned from their grandparent. Winners receive gift certificates for a fun afternoon with their loved ones. Download an entry form at www.cscmc.org. Hurry! Entries must be received by August 30. Good luck!

Contact Us

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