

## Talking Points for LHDs on H1N1 Vaccine Availability

- The (name) County Health Department will hold an H1N1 vaccine clinic at (location w/address) on (date) from (time).
- 2009 H1N1 vaccination has begun but initial supplies are small. More doses are expected for shipment each week. Please be patient as this program expands and more vaccine becomes available. There will be enough vaccine available for anyone who wishes to receive it.
- The vaccine situation changes rapidly – throughout each day, vaccine is being shipped from the vaccine manufacturers to distribution centers; orders are coming in; orders are being processed and shipped; and vaccine is arriving in thousands of places across the country.
- The vaccine development process is complex. Forecasting how much vaccine will be available at a certain time is challenging, and amounts will vary from week to week. Millions of doses of vaccine are in the pipeline, and federal, state and local public health authorities are working hard to get vaccine out to the public as soon as we receive it.
- Private health care providers may also have H1N1 vaccine on hand, so be sure to contact your provider to find out whether you can receive vaccine from them.
- The five initial target groups for vaccination efforts include:
  - pregnant women,
  - persons who live with or provide care for infants younger than 6 months,
  - health care and emergency medical services personnel,
  - children and young adults aged 6 months through 24 years, and
  - persons aged 25 through 64 years who have medical conditions that put them at higher risk for influenza-related complications.
- For more information about 2009 H1N1 vaccine, see the following websites: [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov) and [www.flu.nc.gov](http://www.flu.nc.gov).
- If you have additional questions, call the North Carolina CARE-LINE between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m., 7 days a week including state holidays, by calling 1-800-662-7030 (English/Spanish) or 1-877-452-2514 (TTY).

*Please do not refer calls to any other state agency.*