



Media Advisory

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National Flu Vaccination Week, Jan. 10-16 Questions About Where to Get Vaccinated? Call 2-1-1.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 11, 2010 – This is National Influenza Vaccination Week, January 10-16. With increasing numbers of H1N1 and seasonal flu cases emerging this year, public health officials are encouraging people to get vaccinated. Up-to-date information about where to get the vaccine throughout the Bay Area can be obtained by calling 2-1-1.

2-1-1 Bay Area is working closely with public health departments, hospitals and clinics to provide callers with the most up-to-date information about where and when the vaccine will be available in our region. Because 2-1-1 is able to answer calls in 150 languages, the community information line can help get information out to the harder-to-reach populations in our community.

Already this flu season, 2-1-1 Bay Area has handled more than 5,000 calls regarding seasonal influenza and H1N1 vaccinations and expects those numbers to substantially grow as flu season continues.

National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) is a national observance that was established to highlight the importance of continuing influenza vaccination, as well as foster greater use of flu vaccine after the holiday season into January and beyond.

Residents who can't dial 2-1-1 can call 800-273-6222 to reach the 2-1-1 call center in their area. For the hearing impaired, dial 415-808-4440 (TTY) or 7-1-1.

About 2-1-1 Bay Area

Launched throughout the Bay Area in February 2008, 2-1-1 is an easy-to-remember, toll-free phone number that connects callers with local community services, such as food, shelter, counseling, employment assistance, quality child care and more. During a disaster, 2-1-1 provides critical information about evacuation routes, food and shelter, as well as support with finding new jobs and permanent housing during long-term recovery. 2-1-1 is confidential and available 24 hours a day in more than 150 languages. 2-1-1 Bay Area is operated by United Way of the Bay Area, United Way Silicon Valley, United Way of the Wine Country, Eden I&R, and Contra Costa Crisis Center. 2-1-1 is available in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Solano and Sonoma Counties. For more information, visit www.211BayArea.org.

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