What is Section 317 Funding?

Section 317 is federal funding for the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, commonly known as “section 317” of the Public Health Service Act. Section 317 provides a safety net program of grants to states to immunize children, adolescents, and adults who have no other means to pay for vaccinations. In the past five years, the national immunization schedule has experienced dramatic increases in the number of vaccines that are recommended to protect the population against vaccine preventable diseases.

317 Funding is Important:

By supporting Section 317 funding, you are helping to increase levels of vaccination across the country, which results in better health outcomes, fewer hospitalizations, and fewer deaths from vaccine preventable diseases. Section 317 funds immunization education and outreach programs, which are necessary to begin to break down disparities and financial barriers to vaccination.

Vaccines Are Cost- Effective:

An economic evaluation of the impact of seven vaccines (DTaP, Td, Hib, polio, MMR, hepatitis B, and varicella) routinely given as part of the childhood immunization schedule found that the vaccines are cost-effective. Routine childhood vaccination with these seven vaccines prevent over 14 million cases of disease and over 33,500 deaths over the lifetime of children born in any given year. It results in an annual cost savings of $10 billion in direct medical costs and over $40 billion in indirect societal costs.

Why We Need Your Support:

- Since 2000, wavering financial support for Section 317 has reduced the number of children that can receive recommended vaccines, which leaves many children vulnerable to vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Babies are born every day, so our work is not done. Continued funding of Section 317 is needed to help ensure that all parents are able to fully immunize their children from vaccine preventable diseases.
Before Vaccines Every Year in the United States:

- Polio would paralyze 10,000 children
- Rubella caused birth defects in about 20,000 children
- Measles infected about 3 million children
- Diphtheria was one of the most common causes of death in school-aged children

Since Vaccines, Every Year in the United States:

- Polio paralyzes zero children
- Rubella causes birth defects in 3 infants
- Measles infects 80-100 children
- Diphtheria causes disease in 2 children

Vaccines help promote a healthy tomorrow for all members of the community!

- Don’t forget about the importance of immunizations. They save lives!
- Immunizations are a wonderful return on investment: For every $1 spent on the childhood series of vaccines, $16.50 is saved!

Immunization in Illinois

For 2011, Chicago attained 74.1% completion of the recommended immunization series for babies. Illinois attained 71.8% with the national average at 73.3% completion.

We have come a long way but would like to attain the Healthy People 2020 objective of 80% for the recommended immunization series.