



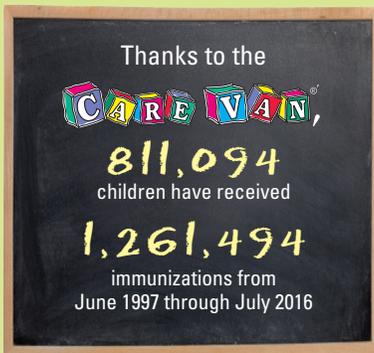
# Caring Times

A Publication for the Friends and Supporters of the Caring for Children Foundation of Texas | Summer 2016



The mission of the Caring for Children Foundation of Texas' Care Van Program is to immunize uninsured and medically underserved Texas children, and provide health, nutrition and exercise education, as well as other health-related services.

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## School Collaboration Expands Outreach

Earlier this year, the Care Van® Program extended collaboration efforts with Dallas Independent School District (DISD) and the DISD's Office of Family Engagement. This included first-time participation in the popular "Prep U Super Saturdays." The DISD's Office of Family and Community Engagement, in collaboration with schools in the high school feeder patterns, offer fun and informational fairs for families. In addition to dozens of resource tables from community organizations, the Care Van Program was on hand to provide free immunizations to DISD students.

The PREP U Super Saturdays are part of the PREP University Family Workshop Series. All events are free and open to all DISD families and are designed to provide parents and legal guardians access to community resources and workshops that empower them with strategies to support children academically, emotionally and socially.

This extended collaboration with DISD is an integral part of the success of ensuring children are receiving proper immunizations on time throughout the school year. In addition, the Care Van made special visits to several DISD high school campuses to promote the Vaccinate Before You Graduate campaign. This annual campaign is geared toward ensuring teens receive timely immunizations before graduation. Texas state law requires all students entering an institution of higher education are required to

show proof of an initial meningococcal vaccination or a booster dose during the five-year period prior to enrolling.

In reflecting on the various needs of the DISD families served by the Care Vans, Craig Jeffery, executive director of the Caring for Children Foundation, said, "We are so proud of the immunization services we provide through the Care Vans, but we want to do more to meet the needs of those we serve. It is through collaborations with school districts that we can make a bigger difference in the overall health of Texas children."



*Students receive timely immunizations through the Care Van Program's school-based outreach efforts.*

## Houston Care Van Program Honored

The City of Houston and Council Member Steve Le, M.D. for District F, recognized the Care Van Program for conducting immunization outreach clinics in Houston communities, such as Alief. The program was thanked for its services and dedication to children and families.



*Pictured left to right: Beryl Hogshead, Community leader; Michael Truong, from the office of Houston City Councilman, Steve Le; Alejandra Leal, Southeast Texas Care Van Lead Nurse; Jill Kaeser, Care Van volunteer.*

## Care Vans Ready for Summer Rush

Another busy summer is upon us as the Care Vans prepare to immunize thousands of kids in time to start classes in August. Our Care Vans in Austin, Dallas and Houston expect to immunize nearly 10,000 children during this time. The Care Vans will participate in several back-to-school events, providing childhood immunizations, teaching hygiene and health facts and promoting healthy living. To see a schedule of summer clinics or event dates in your community visit [www.carevan.org/neighborhood.htm](http://www.carevan.org/neighborhood.htm) and select the van in your area. Also, be sure to look for the Care Vans during the following major events:

- **Mayor's Back 2 School Fest** – Houston
- **Austin ISD Back-to-School Bash** – Austin
- **Back-to-School Fair (Diamond Hill)** – Fort Worth
- **Children's Health Day at Almeda Mall** – Houston
- **El Mundo Back-to-School Festival** – Austin
- **Church of the Incarnation Health Fair** – Dallas

## Recommended Immunizations for Preteens and Teens

Some of the vaccines your child received as a baby are wearing off by the time they reach middle school. And as a preteen or teen, your child may come into contact with a variety of diseases, different from the ones they were exposed to as babies. Vaccines can help protect your preteen or teen from these illnesses.

### Tdap Vaccine

The Tdap vaccine protects against three serious diseases: tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough). Preteens should get Tdap at age 11 or 12. If your teen did not get a Tdap shot as a preteen, ask their doctor or nurse about getting the shot now. As an adult, you need a 1 time dose of Tdap vaccine. Afterwards, a Td booster dose is needed every 10 years. Talk to your doctor about getting the vaccine.

### Meningitis (MenACWY) Vaccine

Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) protects against 4 types of bacteria that causes meningitis which infects the blood or infects the fluid of the spinal cord and around the brain. Preteens need the MCV4 shot when they are 11 or 12 years old, and they need a booster shot at age 16. Even if your teen got the MCV4 shot when they were 13, 14 or 15 years old, they will still need a booster at 16 years. Older teens and college students who have never received any MCV4 shots should get it as soon as possible.

### Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (HPV)

The human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is an anti-cancer vaccine. It helps protect girls and boys from certain types of cancer caused by HPV infection. The series of 3 shots are given over a 6-month period. Ideally, HPV vaccines are given to children when they are 11 or 12 years old. But if your child is older than 11 or 12 and has not yet received the HPV vaccine, talk to their doctor about getting the series of shots now. Preteens and teens need to get all 3 shots for full protection.

View and print immunization schedules for 7-18 years old by visiting [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines).

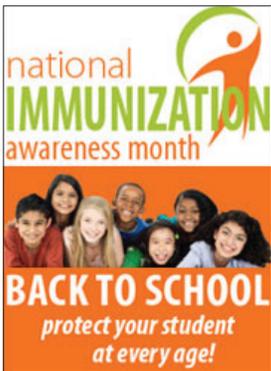


## Foundation Wish List



Did you know? The Care Van program uses over 70,000 bandages, 50,000 cotton balls, and gives away over 25,000 stickers to children who get their shots each year. Your donation of the following items will help us in our mission as we provide immunizations and conduct outreach services. Donations may be shipped to the Foundation's home office, or call TX toll-free 800-258-5437 (ext. 8) for other arrangements:

## August is National Immunization Month



August is recognized as National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). The goal of NIAM is to increase awareness about immunizations across the life span, from infants to the elderly. This is the perfect time to remind family, friends, co-workers and those in the community to "catch up" on their vaccinations. More importantly, parents who are enrolling their children in school or students who are entering college (including those not living on campus) will have to comply with state laws for

admission. Take time to visit the Texas Department of State Health Services website to learn more [www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school).

Additionally, the Care Van Program continues to team up with various school districts to offer school-based immunization events throughout the school year. Many studies contend that such school-based initiatives are an effective way of improving immunization levels.

Vaccines offer safe and effective efforts to protect individuals from infectious diseases. By staying up-to-date on the recommended vaccines, individuals can try to protect themselves, their families, friends and communities from serious, life-threatening diseases. The Care Vans are working to improve the health of Texas, one child at a time!

- **Band-Aids or Adhesive bandages for kids** (25, 50 or 100 per box)
- **Individually wrapped alcohol swab/prep pads** (boxes of 50 or 100)
- **Disinfectant wipes and sprays**
- **Ink Pens, Clipboards**
- **Printing/Copying services** (in-kind copying or office supply gift card)
- **Drawstring trash bags** (13 gal.)
- **Vehicle detail/cleaning services** (gift cards welcomed)
- **Gift cards to Firestone** (oil/filter change or general auto maintenance)

# Big Shots ParTee! Inaugural Event



You're invited to the inaugural Big Shots ParTee benefiting the Caring for Children Foundation of Texas. Chaired by Melissa Carson, the Big Shots ParTee will be a fun evening to celebrate 25 years of achievement and to help raise funds that will allow us to continue our mission of improving health outcomes for Texas children.

Join Honorary Chairs, former Dallas Cowboy star Tony Casillas and his wife Tamara, for an energetic evening of cocktails, dinner, silent auction, raffle, Topgolf tournament, music and mingling with local "Big Shots." All types can join;

experienced golfers and those who have no idea how to swing! Guests will enjoy engaging conversation with your favorite "Big Shot" celebrity, opportunity to bid on one-of-a-kind auction items and be inspired by icons making a difference in our community. This event is the perfect way for individuals and business leaders to make an investment in the future of our state, improving health outcomes for children. **We hope you join us!**

**For more information on sponsorships or purchase individual tickets, visit [www.carevan.org](http://www.carevan.org) or [big-shots.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)**



## RESOURCES:

- ♥ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov)
- ♥ Department of State Health Services: [dshs.state.tx.us](http://dshs.state.tx.us)

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