



## OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR

Knox County Health Department, 140 Dameron Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37917 – 6413

August 11, 2008

Dear Parent,

Knox County Health Department will be offering **FREE** FluMist Vaccinations to **ALL** children ages 2 to 19 in Knox County. We have vaccinated over 45% of the eligible children in Knox County over the past three influenza seasons. Together we have created a healthier community and helped to keep our children in schools.

Attached you will find a **Consent Form** allowing your child to be vaccinated against influenza (flu). Please complete, sign, and return the **Consent Form** to your child's homeroom or first period teacher this week so that we may properly plan for your school's vaccination clinic. **We will not vaccinate your child unless we receive a completed, signed Consent Form!**

Phase 1 Clinics will occur September 22<sup>nd</sup> – October 17<sup>th</sup>. Phase 2 Clinics for grades K – 5 will occur December 2<sup>nd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, check the Health Department's website or your school's information site for specific dates and times for your school. If you miss your school's scheduled clinic date, you may go to a health department location for the free vaccination. If your child is ineligible for FluMist, please bring your child to one of our Health Department locations for a free Flu Shot.

Children under the age of 9 who never received any type of influenza vaccine before or who received only 1 dose in their first year of vaccination should receive 2 doses this year, with single annual doses in subsequent years. We will provide the second dose during Phase 2. The consent form will provide permission to vaccinate for both doses, if needed.

If you have questions about influenza vaccination or FluMist, we encourage you to:

1. Ask your school nurse.
2. Call your doctor's office.
3. Call 211 after August 29<sup>th</sup>.
4. Access our website <http://www.knoxcounty.org/health>, <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>, or <http://www.flumist.com>.

Knox County Health Department strongly believes influenza vaccinations prevent influenza. We strive to conduct programs to make our community a healthy community. Your comments on our programs are important to us. Please provide us your comments either by using the back of the consent form or on our web-site at [www.knoxcounty.org/health](http://www.knoxcounty.org/health) on the FluMist link, which will be available on August 29, 2008.

Sincerely,

Martha Buchanan, MD  
Public Health Officer  
Knox County Health Department

John Lott, RN, MS  
Director of Nursing  
Knox County Health Department