



CLAY COUNTY

PUBLIC HEALTH CENTER



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Clay County Public Health Center Begins Daycare Syndromic Surveillance for 2018-2019 Season

LIBERTY, Mo. – November 2, 2018 – During the month of October 2018, Clay County Public Health Center began their second year of seasonal illness surveillance within daycares. This initiative highlights the benefits of civic partnerships to prevent the spread of communicable diseases throughout the community.

In 2017, the Clay County Public Health Center initiated the Daycare Surveillance System to monitor symptoms of illnesses in children that attend daycare. During the school year, participating daycares and preschools report the number of children experiencing symptoms like fever, vomiting, and respiratory illness to the health center every week. Last school year, the Daycare Surveillance System monitored the symptoms of illness in over 1,110 children in the county.

Surveillance information is used to identify increases in illness trends among children, so staff can react quickly and prevent other children from getting sick. Early identification of illness within these centers prevents additional children from becoming ill, in turn reducing medical costs for additional families and preventing more parents from taking off days from work to care for sick children.

The Clay County Public Health center extends gratitude to the following daycares for taking important steps to protect the health of our community by participating in the Clay County Daycare Surveillance System during the 2018-2019 season.

- Cerner Kids Learning Center in North Kansas City
- North Kansas City Hospital Learning Center in North Kansas City
- Easter Seals Midwest in Pleasant Valley
- Kid's Connection Learning Center in Liberty
- Liberty Public Schools Early Childhood Center in Liberty
- Liberty Public Schools Early Bird Learning Center in Liberty
- Hilltop Preschool in Liberty
- Little Tots Preschool in Liberty
- Smithville Early Childhood Center in Smithville
- Talented Tots Learning Center in Excelsior Springs

If your daycare or preschool is in Clay County and would like to participate in the program, please contact Clay County Public Health Center's Epidemiology Program at 816-595-4364.

About Clay County Public Health Center

Created in 1953, the Clay County Public Health Center is a nationally accredited local public health department protecting the health of all people in the county by implementing population-based prevention programs and services. This community approach to wellness not only prevents the spread of disease but also provides wellness education to empower people to make healthy choices. To learn more, visit www.clayhealth.com.

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The mission of the Clay County Public Health Center is to deliver the essential public health services of prevention, promotion and protection to the communities of Clay County.