

FLU INITIATIVES

SUMMARY

For the 2013 flu season, the St. Luke's Community Health Department obtained free flu vaccines through a grant provided by the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP). This vaccine was used to provide free flu vaccine clinics in communities where individuals face barriers to receiving health care .

HIGHLIGHTS

Lehigh County

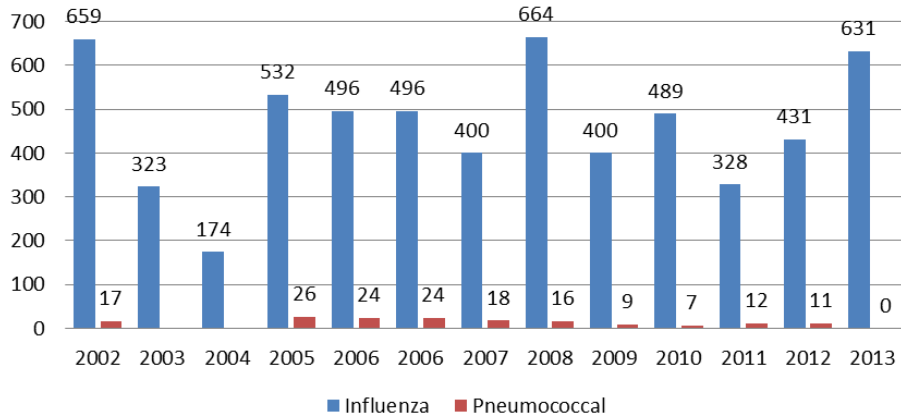
- A total of 6 public flu clinics were held:
 - Asbury United Methodist Church
 - Day Break Program – Lehigh Valley Conference of Churches – Soup Kitchen
 - DeSales University
 - Mosser Village Family Center
 - Rep. Mackenzie Senior Expo – Luther Crest Retirement Village
 - St. Paul's Catholic Church
- 407 flu vaccines were given:
 - 231 free
 - 176 low cost

Northampton County

- A total of 13 public flu clinics were held at:
 - Ahart's Market – south side Bethlehem
 - Cornerstone Church Soup Kitchen
 - Easton Area Community Center
 - Easton Weed and Seed Easton Area Community Center
 - Holy Infancy Church
 - Nazareth Food Pantry x 2
 - New Bethany Soup Kitchen
 - Rep. Hahn Senior Expo
 - Safe Harbor
 - St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry
 - Untiy HouseIndividuals also made appointments for flu vaccines at the St. Luke's Community Health office
- 584 flu vaccines were given:
 - 369 free
 - 215 low cost
- A total of 31 free flu vaccines were given at various places to individuals in need

SUCCESSSES

SHIP Supported Flu/Pneumococcal Vaccines 2002 - 2013



Race		Frequency	Percent
		172	27.3
	Asian	15	2.4
	Black	34	5.4
	Other	15	2.4
	White	395	62.6
	Total	631	100.0

At these flu clinics, 361 individuals completed a survey, in which the results were:

30% did not receive a flu vaccine last year

Top reasons for coming to that particular clinic

- 361 – 57% of SHIP funded clients said convenience
- 164 – 26% of SHIP funded clients said that they have no health insurance
- 76 – 12% of SHIP funded clients said cost
- 50 – 8% of SHIP funded clients have a primary doctor

(Clients could choose multiple answers)

16% of SHIP funded clients reported having a chronic disease
11% of SHIP funded clients reported having diabetes

As the data shows below, there was not a significant difference in the amount of women vs. men who received the flu vaccine. There is however a larger percent of Hispanic population who received the vaccine, which is due to the target population we were reaching out to.

Gender:

334 – 53% Women

259 – 41% Male

38 – 6% Did not identify gender

In addition to the 631 free flu vaccines given through the SHIP grant, 391 flu vaccines were given to individuals who had Medicare insurance or who paid a small fee for the vaccine. Flu clinics for both free vaccine and low cost vaccine took place in both Lehigh and Northampton counties.

Ethnicity		Frequency	Percent
		256	40.6
	Hispanic	242	38.4
	Not Hispanic	133	21.1
	Total	631	100.0

CHALLENGES & NEXT STEPS

Funding and resources might prove to be a challenge as the demand for flu shots increases.



Report Submitted in 2014