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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San Juan Basin Health has received their 2nd small allotment of H1N1 vaccinations. These vaccines will be distributed to **pregnant women and people who live with or care for infants younger than 6 months of age only**. The CDC has designated this as a high risk group since babies younger than six months cannot be vaccinated against the flu, yet are at high risk for serious complications.

The first vaccination clinic was held in Durango at the La Plata County Fairgrounds on Thursday, October 22nd, 2009 for this high risk focus group.

A vaccination clinic will also be held in Bayfield for the same focus group on **October 31st, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** at the Upper Pine Fire Protection Administration Building located at 515 Sower Drive. The vaccine is free. This clinic is primarily for people who can receive the FluMist nasal vaccine – that is, individuals between 2 and 49 years of age who are not pregnant and do not have chronic health conditions. (*NOTE: I need to know if this is accurate information!*)

San Juan Basin Health is advising people who are outside this focus group to continually check for updates on the H1N1 flu sites & info lines to find out when the next shipments of vaccines will arrive and when the next target group clinics will be held.

San Juan Basin Health Department's website (www.sjbhd.org) posts local media releases and has an H1N1 Resource page with podcasts, factsheets, and direct links to reliable, up-to-date websites. They also have a FluLine which can be reached at 247-5702, ext. 1520.

The Health Department also recommends the following information phone lines: CoHELP – 1-877-462-2911 Colorado's Help Line with toll free live operators; and 1-800-CDC-INFO the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Hotline is available in English and Spanish, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Also, the La Plata County Infoline provides up-to-date information about seasonal flu & H1N1 flu. It can be reached @ 970-385-4636 ext. 2270. The Infoline messages can also be viewed on the La Plata County website at <http://co.laplata.co.us> (choose Infoline Frequently Asked Questions – Health).

For answers to frequently asked questions regarding the H1N1 flu, the Health Department continues to recommend the following sources: www.flu.gov (CDC and Health and Human Services site) or the State Public Health and Environment's H1N1 site: www.colorado.gov/nofluforyou;

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