



MEDIA ADVISORY

Bureau of Administration
7178 Columbia Gateway Drive
Columbia, MD 21046

Media Contact: Lisa M. de Hernández
Public Information Officer
410-313-6353 Office 410-428-7294 Mobile
ldehernandez@howardcountymd.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 25, 2008

Childhood Diseases on the Rise; Lack of Immunizations Blamed - Childhood Immunizations Myths Dispelled

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported that cases of measles reached their highest levels since 1997. This year, 131 cases of measles have been reported nationally so far, already much higher than last year's reported 42 cases. The CDC conjectured that parents who are worried about a possible link between the measles immunization and autism are not vaccinating their children against this, or other childhood diseases.

The Howard County Health Department will dispel the myths and encourage parents to participate in one of the greatest public health success of the last century-Immunization!

WHO: Dr. Peter Beilenson, Howard County Health Officer
Dr. Daniel Levy, President, Maryland Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

WHAT: Immunization Awareness

WHEN: Wednesday, August 27, 2008
1:00pm

WHERE: Howard County Health Department
Columbia Health Center
7180 Columbia Gateway Dr.
Columbia, MD 21046

WHY: To dispel the myths and illustrate the importance of childhood immunizations.

###