

# How Community Immunizers Support The Goal Of Increasing Immunization Rates

Steve Pellito

- Convenient access in a reliable, efficient, and safe manner
- All immunizers play an important role in protecting the health of the individuals we touch
- Combining seasonal influenza as well as an H1N1 vaccination effort could result in hundreds of millions of additional vaccines needing to be delivered at the same time medical office and hospital visits is likely to increase
- Alternative settings allow for large groups of people to be vaccinated in a shorter period of time

- Legislation limiting access to vaccines is creating barriers to access for some priority groups
- The CIP working group feels we need to increase access and support an all hands on deck approach to maximize every available resource possible
- Limiting resources is counterproductive to the goal of increasing immunization rates

- No one sector alone can meet the demand for large scale vaccinations in such a short period of time.
- Public Health budgets and resources are declining
- CIP's have the ability to mobilize quickly
- There are many success stories of public/private partnerships increasing immunization rates

- CIP's have the ability to conduct clinics in senior centers, employer group, schools, and public locations such as pharmacy & grocery stores, places of worship, YMCA's, and other public venues
- We employ tens of thousands of qualified staff who are available to administer vaccine
- We are experienced in conducting large scale vaccination programs. Collectively, CIP's administered roughly 10 million flu vaccines last year