



## LIVINGSTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

2300 East Grand River Avenue, Suite 102

Howell, Michigan 48843-7578

[www.lchd.org](http://www.lchd.org)

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### PERSONAL/PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

P: (517) 546-9850

F: (517) 546-6995

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

P: (517) 546-9858

F: (517) 546-9853

April 1, 2019

To Livingston County Schools & Child Care Centers,

With the current measles outbreak occurring in Southeast Michigan, parents may have questions about what can be done to keep children safe, and what their child's school/child care will do if a measles case is confirmed in their building.

While we do not yet have a confirmed a case of measles in Livingston County, here are some important points to keep in mind if this does occur:

- Measles is highly contagious. If a case is confirmed in a school or child care center, Livingston County Health Department will review all staff and student vaccination records to determine the risk of further spread.
- Measles is a serious disease. Exposed children and staff who are not fully protected from measles will be excluded for 21 days after their last exposure. This may be extended if there are more measles cases.
- Those excluded from school or child care after a measles exposure will also need to stay home to avoid exposing others in the community.
- Now is a great time for all families and school/child care staff to review vaccine records and get their vaccines up-to-date. Encourage parents to provide their child's complete, documented vaccination record from their doctor or Michigan Care Improvement Registry.
- The measles vaccine (MMR) is very effective. The recommended two doses are approximately 97% effective at preventing measles.

All children should have had at least 1 dose of MMR at age 12 months or after, plus a second dose between the ages of 4 and 6 years. The 2<sup>nd</sup> dose can be given earlier if it is at least 4 weeks after the 1<sup>st</sup> dose. Children who receive two MMR vaccines at least 4 weeks apart at any time after the age of 12 months are considered to have completed the MMR series. Parents are strongly encouraged to contact their healthcare provider for guidance.

Encourage families to **call** their physician right away if their child develops a fever that is accompanied by a **rash** and one or more of the "three C's" of measles: cough, coryza (runny nose), and conjunctivitis (pink eye).

Symptoms of measles generally occur about 7 to 10 days after a person has been infected. Most often symptoms start with a fever, runny nose and eyes, and cough. A red blotchy rash will develop 3-7 days after the fever starts, first on the face and gradually moving down the body.

Immunizations are available through Livingston County Health Department and healthcare providers. Additional measles information is included with this letter. If you have questions, please contact Livingston County Health Department at 517-546-9850. For information about the measles outbreak, visit [LCHD.org](http://LCHD.org).

Sincerely,

*Dianne McCormick*

Dianne McCormick, M.S.A.  
Health Officer, Livingston County Health Department

cc: School Superintendents