PROCLAMATION

LARIMER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

A Proclamation Recognizing April 22-29, 2024, as National Infant Immunization Week

WHEREAS, National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) highlights the importance of protecting infants and young children from vaccine-preventable diseases; and,

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and Larimer County Department of Health and Environment all recommend that children stay on track with their well-child appointments and routine vaccinations to provide protection against potentially life-threatening diseases; and,

WHEREAS, giving babies the recommended vaccinations by age two is the best way to protect them from 14 serious childhood diseases; and,

WHEREAS, the U.S. has seen a dramatic increase in measles infections over the last year, due in part to falling vaccination rates and increased travel impacting unvaccinated people; and,

WHEREAS, experts recommend that children get the measles, mumps and rubella or MMR vaccine in two doses, the first between 12 months and 15 months of age and a second between 4 and 6 years old, with two doses being 97% effective in preventing infections; and,

WHEREAS, vaccines are among the most successful and cost-effective public health tools available for preventing disease and death with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimating that the vaccination of children born between 1994 and 2018, the U.S. has saved nearly \$406 billion in direct medical costs and \$1.88 trillion in total societal costs; and,

WHEREAS, our country has a long-standing vaccine safety system that ensures vaccines are as safe as possible and that as new information and science become available, vaccine recommendations are monitored, updated, and improved; and,

WHEREAS, trust in vaccines is built through multiple conversations between parents and caretakers, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and community members; and

WHEREAS, NIIW provides an opportunity to encourage vaccine conversations at every level; and,

WHEREAS, families, healthcare professionals, and public health officials must work together to help protect the entire community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE LARIMER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

THAT:

April 22 through April 29, 2024, is recognized as "National Infant Immunization Week" in Larimer County, Colorado.

Done this 18th day of April, 2024, in Fort Collins, Colorado, by the Larimer County Board of Health.

LARIMER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Ву: _

President

ATTEST

Secretary