



2023



LET'S GET IMMUNIZED NEW YORK ADVOCACY PLATFORM

Let's Get Immunized NY strives to provide reliable and trustworthy information on immunization and encourage New Yorkers to get recommended vaccines. Additionally, we advocate for policies that protect and improve access to immunization, increase awareness of the public health benefits of vaccination, and address health disparities with vaccine access, especially in medically underserved areas and communities with low immunization rates.

KEY ADVOCACY PRINCIPLES

Vaccines are one of the greatest contributions to public health in the modern era, preventing serious, sometimes deadly diseases, saving countless lives, and even eradicating life-threatening illnesses like smallpox. Despite the tremendous impact that vaccines have had on public health, disinformation about vaccines persists and in some communities there are still challenges with accessing vaccines. Let's Get Immunized NY stands firm against regressive measures that would reverse the strong vaccination policies currently in place in New York State. We are committed to advancing evidence-based policies that adequately invest in and support vaccine utilization.

LET'S GET IMMUNIZED NY SUPPORTS EFFORTS TO

- Protect all New Yorkers from preventable illnesses and supporting efforts that encourage New Yorkers of all ages to receive recommended vaccines.
- Support proper investment in New York State's immunization infrastructure including state and local immunization programs, vaccine outreach and education efforts, and vaccine information systems.
- Eliminate barriers that prevent vaccine access including language, geographic, socio-economic, and racial disparities.
- Increase access to immunization among at-risk populations including people living with chronic illness, those living below the poverty level, communities of color, individuals with limited English proficiency, seniors, and maternal populations.



ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

- **Support improvements to vaccine recordkeeping and public health surveillance by enacting legislation to require reporting of all vaccinations given to individuals ages 19 years of age or older to the State or City registry**, moving from an “opt-in” to an opt-out of such reporting in New York (S75a, Hoylman/A279a, Gottfried).
- **Support improvements to vaccine access and investment in public health infrastructure including restoration of NYC’s reimbursement for public health** to 36% above the base grant under Article 6 which includes funding for vaccination work by local health departments (\$60 million annually).
- **Support for additional state resources dedicated to a sustained public relations campaign around general vaccine promotion and education** focused on the importance of vaccination for all New Yorkers and combatting disinformation efforts.
- **Promote greater interoperability between the State and City vaccine registries** to improve New York’s vaccine recordkeeping.
- **Oppose measures to weaken New York’s strong vaccination policies** that ensure the protection and safety of our communities.

WHY VACCINES ARE SO IMPORTANT

- Receiving recommended vaccinations supports the public good. Doing so is both a personal and social responsibility that keeps our children, families, and communities safe from serious diseases, especially those who cannot be vaccinated.
- The best way to protect ourselves and those in our communities from severe health impacts caused by illnesses like influenza, COVID-19, measles, polio, and others is to get vaccinated.
- Investment in strong immunization infrastructure that bolsters access is an investment in New York’s overall public health.
- Communities that lack access to vaccines suffer more severe health outcomes from vaccine preventable illnesses. We strive for equitable access to vaccines because everyone deserves the ability to take proactive measures to protect their health.
- Let’s Get Immunized NY seeks to preserve the strong immunization policies and programs in New York State and supports measures supported by data and science, which further strengthen vaccine access and utilization.

For more information on Let’s Get Immunized NY, our partners, educational and advocacy efforts, and vaccine resources, please visit www.letsgetimmunizedny.org.