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NEWS RELEASE

09/22/2024

City Hosts Free Drive-Thru Flu Shots Event at the El Paso Zoo

Be PowerFlu Prevention Campaign Aims at Saving Lives

EL PASO, **Texas**—The City of El Paso Department of Public Health and the Fire Department are hosting a FREE flu vaccine drive-thru from 1 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, September 24, at the El Paso Zoo, 4001 E. Paisano Drive.

The drive-thru site at the zoo is <u>free of charge</u> for members of the community 6 months of age and older with **no appointment or insurance**.

Influenza (flu) is a highly contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose throat and lungs and can result in serious complications such as pneumonia, bacterial infections and even death.

"Every year during the fall and winter seasons, many El Pasoans become ill with respiratory diseases and the flu is one of those viruses that can cause severe complications requiring hospitalization and in some cases death," said Dr. Hector Ocaranza City-County Health Authority. "The flu vaccine can save lives by providing protection against those complications, thus preventing hospitalization and death. It is extremely important that everyone get their flu shot annually before the flu season."

The "Be PowerFlu" prevention campaign is meant to reduce the number of Flu cases and prevent serious Flu-related illnesses. Reducing the number of Flu cases will also reduce the number of flu-related hospitalizations and keep our community healthy.

For more information about the Flu vaccine, visit BePOWERflu.com.

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