



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Plan Your Company or Organization's Flu Prevention Now!**

*The VNA offers customized on-site flu immunization clinics*

Now is the time to start planning for flu season. The impact of the flu could cost businesses thousands of dollars as employees are forced to take days off to recuperate, or care for children or older adults who are ill.

Prevention is an employer's best defense to fight the flu in the workplace. As the expert in flu prevention, the Visiting Nurse Association's flu prevention program makes it easy for companies and organizations to fight the flu bug by offering customized clinics in the Omaha, Council Bluffs and surrounding areas. On-site flu immunization clinics benefit employees by reducing employee absenteeism, increasing employee productivity, decreasing the need for temporary help, increasing profitability and offering a cost-effective employee benefit.

A yearly flu vaccination is recommended for the following groups of people who are at increased risk for serious complications of the flu:

- Persons 50 years of age or older.
- Adults and children six months or older with chronic pulmonary or cardiovascular disorders, including asthma.
- Children six to 59 months of age.
- Women who will be pregnant during influenza season.
- Healthcare workers involved in direct patient care.
- Out-of-home caregivers and household contacts of children who are six months of age or less.
- Residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities.
- Children six months to 18 years of age who are on chronic aspirin therapy.

A new flu vaccination is needed annually to provide protection from the current season's viruses.

Clinics are scheduled to kick off October 1 through December 31, or into 2009, if there continues to be a need for flu immunization. To schedule your customized workplace flu immunization clinic or get more information, contact Andrea Witt, Flu Prevention Coordinator, at (402) 930-4220 or [awitt@vnaomaha.org](mailto:awitt@vnaomaha.org).

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### **About the Visiting Nurse Association**

The Visiting Nurse Association supports the dignity and well-being of Omaha and Council Bluffs residents by delivering the highest quality home care, IV therapy, hospice and community/public health services wherever our clients call home. Our compassionate staff provides care to all individuals regardless of age, color, creed, neighborhood or ability to pay. For more than 100 years, the VNA remains true to its mission to develop and maintain innovative programs that bring comfort and healing to the sick, frail, young, injured and the dying. Our overall goal is to provide peace of mind, quality of life and independence for the client, their family and their loved ones.