



Lewis County Public Health & Social Services

News Release

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Contact: Danette York, Director
360-740-2774

Public Health Immunization Clinic Closing Permanently in August

Chehalis, WA – Lewis County Public Health & Social Services (LCPHSS) Director Danette York announced the public health immunization clinic will close permanently at the end of the day on Thursday, August 16, 2018. “The clinic doesn’t pay for itself,” York said. “As good stewards of taxpayer funds, we have decided to stop using tax dollars to make up for the shortfall in the revenue the clinic brings in.”

“We have always tried to balance the needs of our residents with the realities of our budget,” York said, adding, “With so many other options available now to meet everyone’s immunization needs, we believe we can close the clinic without creating any undue hardship.”

The timing of this closure coincides with the upcoming retirement of long-time LCPHSS immunization nurse, Jane Sheldon, RN. “With Jane’s retirement,” York said, “we will save on payroll costs without having to lay anyone off.”

York and Sheldon recommend people contact their primary care physician to learn what shots are available there. If they do not have one, they suggest people look at becoming a patient at a local clinic in Lewis County.

In addition to primary care physicians, a wide variety of adult and child vaccinations are available at pharmacies in Lewis County, including Centralia Pharmacy, Colton’s, Safeway, Rite Aid, Walmart, and Walgreens. Pharmacies ask that customers arrive at least 30 minutes prior to closing time for vaccinations. Pharmacies accept most adult insurances, some children’s insurances, and can often tell you at the visit how much of the cost is covered by your insurance.

TB testing remains available in Lewis County at The Quick Clinic, Steck Clinic, and the Valley View Health Center location on Kresky in Chehalis.

Between now and August 16, the clinic will operate at its usual hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon and 1:30 to 4 p.m.

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