Vaccinations are important disease prevention interventions. They help prevent infectious diseases that were once common; disease such as polio, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough); mumps, measles, rubella, tetanus and Haemophilus Influenzae type b. An immunized child is not only protected against these diseases but it also protects the rest of the community, especially those people who cannot be immunized themselves. Immunization rates that are low create pools of susceptible children and increased risk of disease outbreaks.

“I know of no other medical or scientific invention that has led to healthier individuals, families, and communities, and saved so many lives and prevented so many hospitalizations and illnesses than the routine use of vaccines.”

Gregory A. Poland, MD, Mayo Clinic

“I take comfort in the fact that, as a parent, I have the opportunity to protect my children from deadly disease, and, at the same time, protect other vulnerable babies and children in my community. I care about all the children in my community, not just mine—which is why I vaccinate.”

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Economic Benefits of Vaccine
In addition to saving lives and improving the quality of life, immunization generates significant economic benefits.

“One vaccination against childhood communicable diseases is one of the most cost-effective public health interventions available.”

Unicef 2003: World Bank 1993

- According to an extensive cost-benefit analysis by the Centers for Disease Control, every dollar spent on immunization saves $6.30 in direct medical costs, with an aggregate savings of $10.5 billion across the U.S.

- When including indirect costs to society -- a measurement of losses due to missed work, death and disability as well as direct medical costs -- the CDC notes that every dollar spent on immunization saves $18.40, producing societal aggregate savings of $42 billion.¹ Various cost-benefit analyses produce similar measurements.²

Vaccines Are Cost-Effective
For every $1 spent ¹:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>Saves</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DTaP</td>
<td>$27.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMR</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Influenza Type B</td>
<td>$5.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perinatal Hep B</td>
<td>$14.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varicella</td>
<td>$5.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inactivated Polio (IPV) s</td>
<td>$5.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“One missed measles vaccine, one new outbreak”
StarTribune Health, September 2, 2011

2011 measles outbreak in the Twin Cities Metro Area
In the recent 2011 measles outbreak, the Twin Cities Metro Area had more measles cases in two months than had occurred in the entire state of Minnesota over the preceding 14 years (1997-2010). During the outbreak, the majority of the patients were hospitalized; fortunately, all recovered. The outbreak was started by an unvaccinated Minnesotan who recently returned from traveling to a country experiencing a measles outbreak. The outbreak was curtailed by direct intervention by Public Health.

- A total of 16 people were hospitalized.
- At least 3,009 people were known to be exposed over the 10-week period of the outbreak.
- 3 people were placed in quarantine with monitoring.
- Cost of privately purchased Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) vaccine: $52.07/dose.


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For more information, please contact:
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