

August 29, 2024

Salt Lake County Council
2001 S. State St. #N2-200
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Re: Amendment of a Fee Waiver for Vaccine Administration

Dear Councilmembers:

Earlier this year, you voted to support a fee waiver request in the amount of \$8,000 to help ensure uninsured children would receive important immunizations. Your support has allowed 524 fee waivers to be granted to children in Salt Lake County to receive vaccinations against diseases like influenza, COVID-19, chickenpox, and others.

Salt Lake County Health Department (SLCoHD) staff have immunized children at back-to-school clinics, outreach clinics hosted with community partners, and at the Department's brick-and-mortar clinics. Some of the clinics and events where SLCoHD staff were able to provide fee waivers include:

- Alliance Community Services events
- Venezuelan Kite Festival at J Lynn Crane Park
- Herriman Community Center
- Granite School District Refugee Night
- Mexican Consulate
- Midvale Family Resource Center/Shelter
- Redwood Elementary School
- Utah Pacific Islander Health Coalition
- Pacific Heritage Academy
- Wellness Without Borders Health Fair
- Neighborhood House
- South Main Public Health Center
- Ellis Shipp Public Health Center

The waiver authorizes SLCoHD to waive a \$14.50 vaccine administration fee for children whose parents or guardians attest they cannot afford to pay it. The cost of the vaccine itself is covered by the federal Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. The demand for these services has been higher than anticipated, and the SLCoHD will exhaust the original \$8,000 fee waiver amount in the coming weeks.

With respiratory virus season fast approaching, the Department's focus will shift from back-to-school vaccination clinics to respiratory virus clinics. In October and November alone, the Department has more than 100 outreach clinics already scheduled.

To meet the anticipated demand, the Department seeks your authorization to waive up to an additional \$12,000 in vaccine administration fees. Waivers will continue to be provided only to uninsured children whose parents or guardians attest to being unable to pay the fee. The Department will absorb the additional waiver amount within its appropriated budget and is not seeking additional funding with this request.

Providing immunizations that can prevent communicable diseases remains one of the best ways to keep our communities safe and healthy. Thank you for your consideration and your support for keeping kids in Salt Lake County healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

Respectfully,



Dorothy Adams
Executive Director

Kelly Colopy
Digitally signed by Kelly Colopy
Date: 2024.09.04 09:24:59 -06'00'
Human Services Director

Erin Litvack
Digitally signed by Erin Litvack
Date: 2024.09.04 10:18:19 -06'00'
Mayor or Designee