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La Clinica plans vaccination clinics to protect kids

La Clinica is offering three parking lot vaccination clinics this month to ensure children don't fall behind on required childhood immunizations during the coronavirus pandemic.

A pediatric electronic health records company found that administration of measles, mumps, and rubella shots dropped by 50 percent between mid-February and the first week of April as coronavirus concerns swept the country, [The New York Times reported](#) recently. The sharp drop in immunizations in recent months could put children nationwide at risk of potentially dangerous infectious diseases that can be prevented with vaccines, the report noted.

La Clinica has stepped up with a safe and simple way to get kids immunized without even going inside a health clinic. Parking lot vaccination clinics will have drive-up registration, and patients can wait in their vehicles to maintain safe physical distances. Nurses with appropriate protective gear will give the shots.

The clinics are scheduled

- Wednesday, May 13, at Central Point Health Center, 4940 Hamrick Road, Central Point;
- Saturday, May 16, at the Wellness Center, 730 Biddle Road, Medford; and
- Monday, May 18, at Phoenix Health Center, 3617 S. Pacific Highway, Medford.

Each one will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Families can drop in or call 541-535-6239 to schedule an appointment.

Like La Clinica's school-based health centers, the vaccination clinics are open to all children ages 2 to 18. Common childhood immunizations required for children to attend school or daycare will be given at no cost to patients, although insurance, including the Oregon Health Plan, will be billed.

About La Clinica

La Clinica offers wellness-focused medical, dental, mental health, and substance use disorder care at 21 sites: six primary health centers, East Medford Dental Clinic, 13 school-based centers, and in a mobile center. Although its mission focuses on providing access to low-income people, La Clinica is open to everyone. La Clinica was founded in 1989 to serve the primary and preventive care needs of migrant and seasonal farm workers in Jackson County. In 2001, in response to an increasing need for affordable primary health, La Clinica expanded its scope to serve every member of the community. All services are offered regardless of a patient's ability to pay, and on a sliding-scale basis for the uninsured and low income.