

## Did you know?

- More than one in four Oklahoma children under the age of two are not fully immunized against catastrophic diseases
- Oklahoma consistently ranks in the bottom half of the nation for childhood immunization coverage
- Children need 75 percent of their vaccinations by age two
- Immunization prevents or minimizes the following 11 serious infections that can cause disease, disability and death:

Diphtheria  
Hepatitis A  
Hepatitis B  
Hib (meningitis)  
Measles  
Mumps  
Pertussis (whooping cough)  
Polio  
Rubella (German measles)  
Tetanus (lockjaw)  
Varicella (chicken pox)

- For every dollar spent on immunizations, as much as \$29 can be saved in direct and indirect health care costs from these diseases

*Source: Oklahoma State Department of Health*

Lack of immunization is a serious problem in our state. Take the first step in solving the problem by inviting the Caring Van to visit your location. Immunizations are free for all children.

## For More Information

## Improving the health of Oklahoma children

### Oklahoma Caring Van Program

P.O. Box 3283 / Tulsa, OK 74102-3283

Tulsa - (918) 592-9487

Oklahoma City - (405) 841-9783

[www.bcbsok.com](http://www.bcbsok.com)

- The Caring Vans provide free immunizations at child care homes, centers, schools and community events.
- The Caring Van staff accurately evaluate immunization records and provide a copy of the updated immunization record to the parent and child care facility.



## What are the Oklahoma Caring Vans?

The Oklahoma Caring Vans are mobile units that provide free immunizations to children at licensed child care homes, centers, schools and community events.

A registered nurse from the City-County Health Department administers the immunizations. Patient information is entered into OSIS (Oklahoma State Immunization Information System) so that children's immunization records will be portable.

The Oklahoma Caring Van program has offices in Tulsa and Oklahoma City, offering clinics in communities statewide.

Since the program began, thousands of children have been immunized by the Oklahoma Caring Vans.



## What people are saying about the Caring Vans

*"It has been exciting to watch the outstanding efforts by the Oklahoma Caring Van program to immunize under-insured children in Oklahoma. Before the program began, there was no organized effort being made to immunize children on-site at day care centers."*

*"The Caring Van program has filled a void in our state's immunization infrastructure, and is very much needed to continue our progress in protecting our state's children from vaccine-preventable diseases."*

— Leslie M. Beitsch, M.D., J.D.  
Commissioner of Health  
Oklahoma State Department of Health

*"Since children in licensed child care programs are required to have immunizations at the medically appropriate time, the Caring Vans will benefit child care programs administrators as well as families."*

— Liz Reece, Director  
Child Care Resource Center, Tulsa

*"Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma is working hard for a healthier Oklahoma. We're proud to play a major role in The Oklahoma Caring Foundation, Inc., and the Oklahoma Caring Van program. This program provides easy access to free immunizations for children, helping communities achieve healthier lifestyles for families and a better future for the next generation."*

— Ronald F. King  
Chairman, CEO and President  
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma

## What is the Oklahoma Caring Foundation, Inc.?

The Oklahoma Caring Foundation, Inc., was established in 1994 as a 501(c)(3) organization. The foundation's mission is to help reduce the number of under-immunized children and improve the health of Oklahomans.

Funded by community contributions, the foundation is administered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma. All donations are used to provide health care services to qualifying children.



## Schedule the Caring Van

To schedule a visit or to receive more information, call (405) 841-9783 in Oklahoma City or (918) 592-9487 in Tulsa.