

DCIC Purpose Statement

Why was your coalition formed?

DCIC was established in 1993 to provide a forum for a long-term alliance to unite individuals and groups with the shared mission to facilitate the improvement of childhood and adult immunization levels. The measles epidemic of 1989 - 1991 and concurrent reports of low immunization coverage levels among toddler age children highlighted the need for such collaboration.

What are your sources of funding?

The coalition is funded through donations and grants from community partners. Donations are tax deductible. In kind donations of staff time are also received from participating agencies.

What is your organization's mission statement?

To facilitate the improvement of childhood and adult immunization levels through collaborative efforts throughout the county. The ultimate coalition goal is to have all citizens of Dane County immunized according to the most current scientific recommendations.

What types of organizations are represented in your coalition?

Coalition members include, representatives from public and private providers, schools, service clubs, social service and childcare agencies, community volunteers, and business leaders. Membership is open to all interested persons, agencies and businesses. There are no membership fees

What are the main projects or activities currently undertaken by the coalition to meet your objectives?

Activities of DCIC include efforts to improve immunization service delivery, such as Roll Up Your Sleeves hepatitis B clinics in schools; efforts to advocate for and educate about the importance of timely immunization, such as during biannual immunization campaigns; collaboration in conducting population based assessments of immunization levels; and efforts to support immunization registry development.

What are ways that an individual or organization can become involved in your coalition?

Those interested can become involved with DCIC to share their knowledge, experience, resources and ideas. There are opportunities to work with other concerned professionals on a variety of community health issues. Work groups include: Education and Outreach, Immunization Practices for Children, Immunization Practices for Adults, Technology, evaluation, and Special Projects.

What are some of the benefits of being part of a collaborative group?

- People working together on a community issue, sharing of resources, impact on public policy, quality of services improved.
- Immunization is safe.
- The benefits of vaccines far outweigh the risks of vaccination.
- Immunization saves money. It is one of the most cost-effective medical interventions available. Every dollar invested saves \$14.
- Immunization saves lives. 1 of every 1,000 children who contract measles will die from it.

What factors do you attribute to sustaining your coalition?

- Committed, knowledgeable, and enthusiastic members
- Clear work-plans and workgroup structure
- Cohesiveness developed when working together on joint projects
- Open communication through periodic evaluation and feedback from members
- Acknowledgement of service and recognition of successful projects

Are there any aspects of your coalition that you would like to improve or change?

Advocate the use of computerized technology to afford a database from which to conduct recall and outreach for those in need of immunization. Improve connections with minority populations.

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To join the Dane County Immunization Coalition contact us:

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