

EAST ORANGE GENERAL HOSPITAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EAST ORANGE GENERAL HOSPITAL HOSTED HEALTH WALK FOR NATIONAL INFANT IMMUNIZATION WEEK

East Orange, N.J., April 27, 2010 – Although flu season is almost over, serious diseases such as measles, mumps, and whooping cough are still a threat to children. East Orange General Hospital in collaboration with the East Orange Health Department, Orange & East Orange School Districts, the City of East Orange and Orange hosted a walk and health event on Saturday, April 24th at Orange Park in Orange, to observe National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW), a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention initiative designed to raise awareness about the importance of childhood immunizations.

NIIW's goal is to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and celebrate the achievements of immunization programs in promoting healthy communities. This year, NIIW will be held from April 18th to April 24th.

Each year during NIIW, the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services leads child health programs across the state in hosting activities to promote vaccinations for children under the age of two. Immunizations are one of the most important ways parents can protect their children against serious diseases. Infants in particular are extremely vulnerable to infectious diseases; that is why it is critical to protect them through immunization. Each day, nearly 12,000 babies are born in the United States who will need to be immunized against 14 vaccine-preventable diseases before age two.

The Orange/East Orange health walk event kicked off at 9:30 a.m. from the Orange Park. The walk route proceeded down Central Avenue in East Orange and ended at East Orange General Hospital's Medical Arts Building. Local community leaders and health officials also were in attendance.

About East Orange General Hospital

East Orange General Hospital is the largest private employer in East Orange, and remains as the only independent, fully accredited, acute-care hospital in Essex County. The hospital is the leader in Behavioral Health Services and provides a comprehensive array of primary care and specialty services including Same Day Surgery, Physical Rehabilitation Services, Family Health, Emergency Medicine, Outpatient Hemodialysis, Hyperbaric/Wound Management, Vascular and Medical/Surgical Services. Serving the community for over a century, the hospital recently expanded its services and is continually adding new equipment and programs to provide the highest level of quality and compassionate patient care. For more information on East Orange General Hospital, please visit: <http://www.evh.org>.

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