GET INVOLVED!

Youth
- Utilize school based clinics.
- Become an ambassador for vaccines.
- Educate your peers on the illnesses.

Parents
- Enroll in an health coverage plan, such as Medicaid/CHIP.
- Utilize services on an annual basis.

School Personnel
- Advertise the availability of free or reduced cost medical services for youth.
- School nurses should review all immunization records and make appropriate referrals.

Community
- Advocate for more teen-friendly community health centers.
- Host community health fairs and invite vendors that can educate and vaccinate youth.

References and More!
Please visit http://www.houstontx.gov/health/hdhs-profiles for a full list of references.

Other Titles in this Series:
- Teen Pregnancy & Prevention
- Youth Suicide Prevention
- Youth Mental Health
- Youth Violence Prevention
- Teen Dating Violence Prevention
- Youth Obesity & Prevention
- Youth Homelessness
- Youth Sexual Health, STIs & HIV
- Youth Bullying & Prevention
- Overall Summary of Teen Health Issues

For more information, please contact Adolescent Health and Injury Prevention (AHIP) via the Houston Youth Voice, Health, Safety Coalition at: 4youthvoice@houstontx.gov
Facebook: 4youthvoicehouston Twitter: @4youthvoice

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An estimated 79 million Americans are currently infected with HPV. HPV infection is most common in people in their teens and early 20s. An estimated 14 million new HPV infections are reported each year in the U.S. HPV is transmitted through skin-to-skin contact, vaginal, anal or oral intercourse. In 2013, only 57 percent of girls nationally between the ages of 13 and 17 received the HPV vaccine, and less than 38 percent received all three doses.

- Only 38 percent of boys nationally ages 13 to 17 received all three doses.
- Houston has a higher rate of youth receiving all three HPV vaccination than the national rate.

**Recommended catch-up vaccines** for adolescents who were not immunized or were under immunized as infants and toddlers:
- Hepatitis B
- Measles Mumps and Rubella (MMR)
- Polio
- Varicella

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**Related Policies and Policy Implications:**
- Expand coverage: Children under 26 years old can be covered by a parent’s health insurance policy. Children under 19 years old can not be denied coverage because of a pre-existing condition.
- **Title 25 Health Services** includes immunization requirements in Texas elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education.
- **Texas Education Code** states each student shall be fully immunized against diphtheria, measles, rubella, mumps, tetanus, and poliomyelitis.
- **Human Resource Code, Chapter 42** establishes statewide minimum standards for their safety and protection and by regulating the facilities through a licensing program.