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Ohio Doctor Named CDC Childhood Immunization Champion

State Health Department Congratulates Dr. Renee Caslow on Award during *National Infant Immunization Week*

COLUMBUS – The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) is proud to announce that Renee Caslow, DO has been named the *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Childhood Immunization Champion* for Ohio. Her dedication to protecting the children in her underserved community against vaccine-preventable diseases makes her a true champion.

“It is an honor to be recognized on such a grand level for something that we are so passionate about,” said Dr. Caslow. “I would like to thank my office staff for their hard work, the Ohio Department of Health and the Vaccines for Children Program, as well as Marietta Memorial Hospital, for providing us the resources we need to maintain the highest quality of care for the pediatric population in the Mid-Ohio Valley.”

Each year, during [National Infant Immunization Week](#), the CDC Foundation and CDC honor health professionals and community leaders around the country with the *CDC Childhood Immunization Champion* awards. These awards acknowledge exemplary individuals who go above and beyond to promote immunization among children in their communities.

Dr. Caslow is a physician in a rural southeastern part of the state that has a shortage of physicians and pediatricians in the community. She takes an active role in her practice by assuring that children are immunized at every visit and parents are educated on the importance of staying on time with vaccines. The outcome measures from her recent childhood immunization assessment showed that each of the seven antigens measured were at or above 90 percent.

“Dr. Caslow is an inspiration to all of us who care passionately about children’s health in Ohio,” said ODH Interim Director Lance Himes. “We are pleased and honored to congratulate her on this well-deserved award.”

CDC Childhood Immunization Champions were selected from a pool of healthcare professionals, coalition members, community advocates, and other immunization leaders. State immunization programs coordinated the nomination process and notified CDC of their recommendations. One winner was selected in each of the 30 participating states and one from the District of Columbia.

To read Dr. Caslow’s profile on the CDC’s website, and to learn more about CDC’s *Childhood Immunization Champion Award* program, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/champions>.

About National Infant Immunization Week

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) is an annual observance to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and to celebrate the achievements of immunization programs in promoting healthy communities throughout the United States. Each year, during NIIW, communities across the U.S. celebrate the *CDC Childhood Immunization Champions*. These award recipients are being recognized for the important contributions they have made to public health through their work in childhood immunization.

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