



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 30, 2010

Contact: Jill Rodriguez, Development Coordinator, El Rio Health Center Foundation Cell 870-7148 jillr@elrio.org

El Rio Community Health Center, Boys and Girls Clubs of Tucson, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Tucson Medical Center to Host Three Free Back-to-School Immunization Clinics

Thursday – July 29th 1 pm to 4 pm - Boys and Girls Clubs – Frank & Edith Morton Clubhouse

3155 E. Grant Road, Tucson, AZ 85716

Saturday – July 31st 9 am to 1 pm - Boys and Girls Clubs – Roy Drachman Clubhouse

5901 South Santa Clara Road, Tucson, AZ 85706

Saturday – August 7th 9 am to 1 pm - Pascua Yaqui Wellness Center

5305 West Calle Torim, Tucson, AZ 85757

Immunization will be given to school-age children, ages 4 to 18, with a parent or legal guardian present. Parents are requested to please bring the child's shot record.

“El Rio is thrilled to be working in a new partnership with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Tucson, Tucson Medical Center, Sol Casinos and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe to help families immunize their kids for back to school” says Brenda Goldsmith, El Rio Health Center Foundation Executive Director. “More people than ever need help keeping their children healthy. It’s imperative that agencies collaborate to offer families one stop services to help break down barriers like transportation, costs, time- people are trying to stay afloat and do more with limited resources,” notes Goldsmith. **“We want to encourage all families to check to see if immunizations are needed now, so they can take advantage of these free events that are being financially supported by help from Sol Casinos, Long Realty Cares Foundation and Comcast.”**

New this year, Tucson Medical Center and Kohl’s Cares for Kids, Boost Your Booty program will offer free booster seats for children who meet the age and weight criteria - over 40 pounds and 5 years or older. All children must be present to receive a booster seat. Children will be weighed and family vehicles must have working lap and shoulder seatbelts. Booster seats are available one per family and limited on a first come basis.

El Rio’s Dental Department will offering children’s dental screenings at the event where families can learn more about different El Rio services and various healthcare coverage options. Information will be available on health care coverage for families without insurance who meet financial guidelines.

In 2009 El Rio staffs administered over 3823 immunizations at the “back to school immunization clinics” at Food City stores to more than 1404 children.

**Don’t forget to bring your child’s shot record to the immunization clinic!
Interested families can call 205-4947 for more information**

Now in its 40th year, El Rio Community Health Center is the largest provider in Pima County of medical and dental services to uninsured and Medicaid populations with over 17 patient sites in the Tucson area. The El Rio Health Center Foundation was created in 2001 to fund new programs, enhance existing programs and help with capital needs at El Rio Community Health Center. The foundation has now raised in excess of \$8 million. For more information visit www.elrio.org

