

# **INFORMATION ON INFLUENZA**

## **LET'S TALK ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF INFLUENZA VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS IN A DIFFERENT WAY:**

***What we know from last year's flu season from a positive perspective.***

**7 MILLION** – The estimated number of Flu illnesses prevented.

**109,000** – The estimated number of Flu related hospitalizations prevented.

**8,000** – The estimated number of Flu related deaths prevented.

## **LET'S RESPOND TO REASONS WHY PEOPLE DON'T THINK THEY NEED GET A FLU SHOT.**

**REASON-**The flu shot will give me the flu.

**RESPONSE-** It's impossible to get the flu from the flu vaccine. It is made with viruses that are not infectious or with no viruses at all. You get the flu from someone else who has been infected.

**REASON-** I'm healthy. I don't need a shot.

**RESPONSE-** Every year people get sick with the flu and some even die. Many people have underlying conditions that they are not aware of like obesity, anemia, etc. Even with a mild case of the flu, you can still pass the virus along to people who love and care about you.

**REASON-** I've never had the flu.

**RESPONSE-** Every year, up to 20% of Americans get the flu- that's up to 60 million people-many of whom have never had the flu before.

**REASON-** The flu shot doesn't work.

**RESPONSE** – Effectiveness varies from season to season and between flu strains. Vaccine effectiveness is not just measured by the percentage of disease prevention but more importantly, by minimizing negative outcomes that vaccination prevents. Even if you catch the flu such as hospitalization and quality of life.

***So get your flu shot today!!***