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IPA Receives APhA Incentive Grant

DES MOINES (May 22, 2008) APhA has selected the Iowa Pharmacy Association (IPA) as a recipient of a \$1,000 incentive grant. Funding for this grant is made possible by the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The purpose of the grant is to increase pharmacy's collaboration with local/state immunization coalitions and public health by supporting meetings or local projects and to facilitate the dissemination of immunization information. Up to eight pharmacy associations receive the incentive grant each year.

The incentive grant will help to strengthen IPA's relationship with the Iowa Immunization Coalition, of which IPA is currently an active member. Project funds will be used to coordinate pharmacists' participation in local, county, and state emergency preparedness planning. IPA is also working with the Iowa Immunization Coalition to continue promoting pharmacist immunization services and the positive public health impact of such services. Future goals include training pharmacists to be a part of the Iowa Immunization Registry Information System (IRIS) for statewide documentation. .

"Emergency preparedness has been a top priority for IPA this year. Pharmacists are able to provide clinical services to those in their community during the event of an emergency, and we want our members to be part of the planning process. With funding from this grant, IPA will have the opportunity to educate pharmacists and local public health agencies on the potential to collaborate in this initiative," said Kate Puetz, Vice President of Professional Affairs at the Iowa Pharmacy Association.

The Iowa Pharmacy Association is the state professional society of pharmacists, united for the purpose of advancing public health, particularly the pharmaceutical care of all Iowans.

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