



SCOTT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION

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Healthy Communities Begin with Prevention



August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) - an annual observance dedicated to highlighting the importance of routine immunizations for people of all ages. NIAM was launched in 2013 by public health groups, including Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to encourage families and individuals to stay up to date with recommended immunizations.

Immunizations throughout childhood are a safe, effective, and easy way to equip children's immune systems to recognize and resist diseases (like measles, pertussis, polio, and meningitis) so they can live healthy lives throughout childhood and into adulthood. Staying up to date on recommended immunizations helps protect not only yourself but also infants, older adults, and individuals with weakened immune systems.

Back-to-School Is Around the Corner—Here Are Some Friendly Tips!

- Review your child's immunization records
- Schedule a well-child visit if immunizations are due
- Discuss any catch-up vaccines if your child is behind schedule
- Check whether sports, college-prep programs, or extracurricular activities require additional immunizations

As families prepare for the new school year, the Health Department will be offering additional immunization clinics in August for children who are Medicaid-eligible, American Indian/Alaskan Native, uninsured, or underinsured. Learn more by visiting our website:

<https://www.scottcountyjowa.gov/health/immunization>

If your child meets any of these eligibility requirements, please call our office at 563-326-8618 to schedule an appointment today. We look forward to helping your child start the school year healthy and protected!



World Breastfeeding Week Encourages Community Support for Parents

World Breastfeeding Week, recognized August 1-7, 2026, is a global campaign to raise awareness on breastfeeding. This year's theme is "Breastfeeding for a Sustainable Start in Life: Strengthen What Works." The theme reminds us of the importance of continuing to track progress and strengthen the support breastfeeding families receive. Offering lactation support and education during pregnancy and after delivery increases the likelihood of feeding babies breast milk only. Breastfeeding plays a role in improving nutrition, strengthening the immune system, and lowering the risk of disease.

Breastfeeding is not always easy and the Health Department wants families to know they are not alone. Through education, encouragement, and community support, we can continue building a strong community of care where every parent feels seen, supported, and empowered in their breastfeeding journey. Breast/chest feeding support and education are offered by Certified Lactation Specialists through the Scott County Health Department's Healthy Pregnancy Program. Individual and group classes are available. To learn more, call 563-328-4114 or visit: <https://www.scottcountyiowa.gov/health/maternal-health>

For more information on breastfeeding and World Breast Feeding Week, visit the following resources:

- World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action: <https://waba.org.my/wbw/>
- World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-breastfeeding-week>
- *Woman, Infants, and Children*: <https://wicworks.fns.usda.gov/topic/health-observances/national-wic-breastfeeding-week>



Upcoming Events

- 8/12/2026, 3:00-6:00PM: Back to Swell Resource Fair, Friendly House, Davenport, IA
- 8/20/2026, 12:00 PM: Scott County Board of Health Meeting, Scott County Administrative Center, 1st Floor Boardroom

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YOUR **HEALTH.**
Our priority.