

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Adirondack Bank Building, 5th Floor, 185 Genesee St., Utica, NY 13501

ANTHONY J. PICENTE, JR.
ONEIDA COUNTY EXECUTIVE

GAYLE D. JONES, PHD, MPH, CHES
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

ADMINISTRATION

Phone: (315) 798-6400 ☎ Fax: (315) 266-6138

NEWS RELEASE

August 30, 2010

For Immediate Release

Contact: Cathe Bullwinkle, Quality Improvement Coordinator
798-5275

Program to Provide Preventative Healthcare Services to Children *"Oneida County LPPP Partners With Head Start for Health Fair"*

For the second consecutive year, *Head Start* children will be provided preventative healthcare services at the *Head Start Children's Health Day Tuesday, August 31st from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm* at the Mohawk Valley Community Action Head Start at 9882 River Road in Marcy, Oneida County Executive Anthony Picente, Jr. announced today.

Picente said the program, which originally only served children residing in the City of Utica, will be opened to serve Head Start families throughout Oneida County this year. The County's Lead Primary Prevention Program, through the New York State Department of Health Lead Poisoning Prevention funding program, is again partnering with Head Start and nine other agencies for the event.

"One of Public Health's core functions is to assure access to preventative health care services in the community; and while this program provides direct healthcare and lead poisoning prevention services to Head Start children and their families so that they may enroll in Head Start this year, it also assists them to obtain health insurance and a primary care provider so that they will have adequate care in the future," Picente said. Picente added, *"This partnership between the Oneida County Health Department through its Lead Primary Prevention Program, fulfills our mission of insuring that children in all cities, townships and municipalities have access to quality health care services."*

The many services to be provided at the *Head Start Children's Health Day* include:

- Physical exams performed by Dr. Emerita Pizzaro and St. Elizabeth's medical residents
- Dental exams performed by Dr. Charles Burns and Dental Hygienists from the Dental Society
- Vision screening
- Hearing screening
- Body Mass Index (BMI) and Obesity Education
- Oneida County Health Department Lead Screening
- Oneida County Health Department Childhood Immunizations
- Developmental screening performed by Dr. Andy Lopez-Williams and staff
- WIC and Eat Smart New York
- Lead Primary Prevention sign-up for free home inspections
- LPP-HEPA vacuum demonstration and lead reduction education

The Dancing Bear Puppet Theatre: Preventing Lead Poisoning will entertain the children in English, Spanish, Burmese, Karen, Somali, Maay Maay. Interpreters will be available assist families with limited English proficiency. *Head Start* will provide free transportation from its sites around the County to the site of the health fair on River Road.

###