

**Otsego County Commission on Aging
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DRIVE-THRU FLU SHOT CLINIC PLANNED ON SEPTEMBER 29

The Otsego County Commission on Aging (OCCOA), in partnership with the Northwest Michigan Health Department, will host a drive-thru flu shot clinic on Tuesday, September 29, at the commission's Gaylord Meal Site, located at the Alpine Alten Zimmer, 120 Grandview Boulevard, Gaylord. The clinic will run from 9 a.m. to noon and will be set up in the parking lot on the east side of the building near the elk viewing area. Due to current COVID-19 restrictions, attendees will receive their flu shots from the safety of their vehicles.

The CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) website,

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/season/faq-flu-season-2020-2021.htm#anchor_1593184899499,

recommends the flu vaccine for "everyone 6 months of age and older, with rare exceptions, because it is an effective way to decrease flu illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths." The CDC stresses the reasons for getting the vaccine in this pandemic year, noting, "It's likely that flu viruses and the virus that causes COVID-19 will both be spreading. In this context, getting a flu vaccine will be more important than ever."

The September 29 clinic is targeted toward older adults (age 60 and older) but is open to the public. Appointments are required and may be made by calling Northwest Michigan Health

Department at 1-800-432-4121 and pressing 4 on the voicemail prompt. Other immunizations that are needed, such as Tdap and pneumonia, should be booked when scheduling for the flu shot.