



National Adult
and Influenza
Immunization
Summit

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NATIONAL ADULT & INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION SUMMIT

2026 Immunization Excellence Awards

Awards Presentations

NATIONAL WINNERS

Laura Scott 2025-26 Outstanding Influenza Season Activities Award

Katie-Rose Wagner, DDS (Somerville, MA)

“Immunization Neighborhood” Champion Award

Semmes Pharmacy (Semmes, AL)

Serese Marotta (Knoxville, TN)

HONORABLE MENTION WINNERS

“Immunization Neighborhood” Champion Award

*University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture
Cooperative Extension Service (Little Rock,
AR)*

Washoe Tribal Health (Gardnerville, NV)

About the Awards Program: The awards program recognizes the value and extraordinary contributions of individuals and organizations towards improved access to vaccinations across the lifespan within their communities. The National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit (NAIIS) is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2026 Immunization Excellence Awards. In 2026, there are two categories of recognition: overall influenza season activities, and “immunization neighborhood” champion awards. Nominees were evaluated based on the areas of impact, collaboration, originality, overcoming challenges, and opportunities. The Summit applauds all stakeholders who are working towards improving the health of their communities. Information about the awards program and recipients can be found at izsummitpartners.org

Honoring the Memory of Laura Scott



“She made the world a better place for our children and all of us.”

In 2015, the National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit (NAIIS) Steering Committee renamed its NAIIS Immunization Excellence Award for **Influenza Season Campaign** to the **Laura Scott NAIIS Immunization Excellence Award for Outstanding Influenza Season Activities**. The award recognizes innovative early and later influenza season activities across the lifespan (pediatric, adolescent and/or adult activities) embracing the spirit and dedication to the prevention of influenza and protecting individuals from vaccine-preventable diseases embodied by Laura Scott in her work as Executive Director of Families Fighting Flu. Her early death took her from us but the trail she left will live on forever.

On March 3, 2015, Families Fighting Flu (FFF) lost its long-time Executive Director and co-founder, Laura Scott. Laura was also an active participant in NAIIS and within the immunization neighborhood. As described by the FFF board, “Laura was truly the heart and soul of the organization for the first ten years of our existence.” Laura helped launch Families Fighting Flu and it was her tireless hard work, dedication and brilliance that enabled its tremendous success. She spent countless hours educating the public and saving thousands of lives. Even though she did not personally lose a child to influenza, her love and support helped impacted families through their darkest days by helping them channel their grief into a meaningful legacy that honored children and families, and made a difference. Laura truly was a hero who made the world a better place. She was an incredible wife and mother, and friend to us all.



Laura Scott

2025–26 Outstanding Influenza Season Activities Award

Katie-Rose Wagner, DDS
Somerville, MA

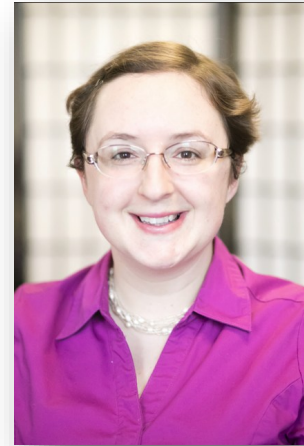
Rosie Wagner, a dentist with a solo private practice in Massachusetts, is redefining flu vaccination access by bringing vaccinations into dental settings. Her practice offers influenza vaccination to every dental patient during their appointment and hosts community vaccination clinics both in the office and in local school districts.



With clear education, Massachusetts IIS documentation, and visible signage and community outreach, neighbors can recognize the dental office as a vaccination site. In founding the National Organization for Dental Immunizers (NODI),



Dr. Wagner convenes dentists, hygienists, physicians, pharmacists, and public health partners to share real-time policy, coding, workflow, and clinical updates that enable dental teams to assess, recommend, administer or refer, and document vaccines in alignment with NVAC Adult Immunization Standards. Her leadership in establishing the first CDT code for influenza vaccination in dentistry (D1720), offering continuing education courses to dentists and hygienists, and organizing community flu clinics staffed with dental professionals has expanded the immunization neighborhood to include a new cadre of trusted providers.



Katie-Rose Wagner, DDS



National Winners

“Immunization Neighborhood” Champion Award

Semmes Pharmacy
Semmes, AL



Semmes Pharmacy has built a high-volume, high-touch adult immunization program that now serves as a regional hub across five counties in South Alabama. In 2025, their team of five immunizing pharmacists and five immunizing pharmacy technicians delivered more than 12,000 vaccines, including influenza, COVID-19, zoster, tetanus, pneumococcal, RSV, and hepatitis B doses.



They conducted more than 100 off-site clinics at low-income senior housing, workplaces, schools, charitable pharmacies, and community centers, vaccinating more than 400 seniors in affordable housing communi-

ties and helping over 110 refugees complete complex schedules required for U.S. citizenship.



Using the state immunization information system (IIS) to review every patient’s record, translated screening tools, and two community health workers to address transportation, language, and insurance challenges, Semmes Pharmacy has created a coordinated, equity-driven model that closes long-standing vaccination gaps.



Holly Williamson, Pharm.D.,
Clinical Pharmacists and Clinical Services Managers.



National Winners

“Immunization Neighborhood” Champion Award

Serese Marotta
Knoxville, TN

Serese Marotta of Vaccinate Your Family has built national platforms that translate lived experience into system-level impact. As a scientist and bereaved mother who lost her five-year-old son, Joseph, to flu in 2009, Serese has transformed loss into leadership by supporting patient advocates and national and community partners to educate others and increase vaccination rates across the lifespan.



Serese Marotta
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

The Vaccination Collaborative she leads now includes more than 900 individuals from over 400 organizations who meet monthly and connect via an active listserv to share best practices, insights, and upcoming events; address timely immunization topics like the childhood schedule changes, vaccine safety, and myth-busting;



and coordinate advocacy efforts. Serese has spearheaded key programs such as SQUAD™ (SQuaring Up Against Disease), which connects, trains, engages, and supports over 70 patient advocates, and Vaccinate Your Family University, which is an online learning management system that includes educational offerings through the Vaccination Community Learning Program (VCLP) curriculum and a library of disease-specific mini-courses including influenza, COVID-19, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and hepatitis B. To date, there have been over 5,000 enrollments in Vaccinate Your Family University, reaching community health workers, healthcare professionals, partners, stakeholders, and advocates.

Serese has also overseen development of multiple live Trusted Messenger trainings for the National Council of Negro Women through the Good Health Women’s Immunization Network program, which reached 3,000 partic-

ipants. In 2025, she directed \$100,000 in grants to 16 community organizations and SQUAD™ members, supporting community-level events that delivered over 1,200 vaccines and 3,000 educational materials to communities in need. In 2025, her long-standing partnership with the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program supported 21,492 online, bilingual vaccine lesson completions across 39 states and territories, with 332 staff attending a live webinar, demonstrating her reach from national infrastructure to family-level decision-making. Serese has built scalable programs and platforms that integrate storytelling, advocacy, and education, blending lived experiences with evidence-based information and scientific rigor to humanize the importance of prevention.

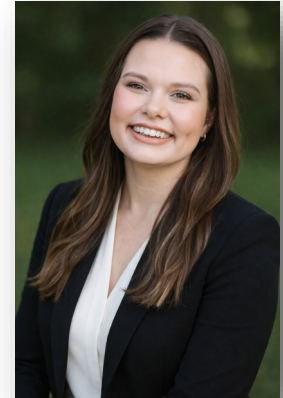


National Winners

“Immunization Neighborhood” Champion Award

**University of Arkansas
System Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service**
Little Rock, AR

County Extension agents engaged independent pharmacists and early childhood educators as core partners, placing QR-coded materials in pharmacies, county fairs, and local events, and host-



Heather K. Wingo

AR-OK Regional Extension
Immunization Educator



**DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION**

University of Arkansas System

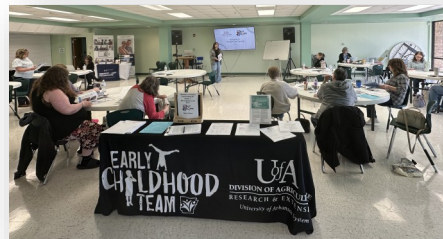


EXCITE

Extension Collaborative on
Immunization Teaching & Engagement

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service is being recognized for its EXCITE work linking rural Arkansans to vaccines through trusted messengers. Across four counties, Extension integrated the Learn. Understand. Decide. framework into 15 “How to Talk to Your Doctor” sessions, reaching 123 adults and equipping them to discuss recommended vaccines with providers; 72 percent planned to talk with a provider within six months and 62 percent intended to schedule a vaccination.

ing pharmacist-supported vaccination opportunities at Extension-led activities. Rapid collaboration with the Best Care early childhood education network during a measles outbreak produced and disseminated targeted information on measles and the MMR vaccine, showing how localized partnerships, IIS-informed outreach, and decision-support tools can move communities from awareness to action.



Honorable Mention Winners

“Immunization Neighborhood” Champion Award

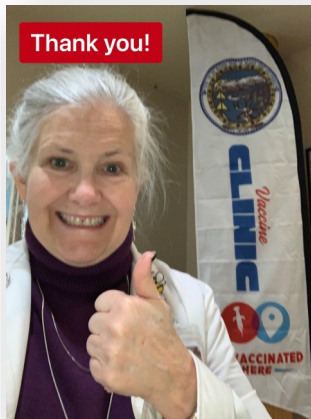
Washoe Tribal Health Gardnerville, NV

Washoe Tribal Health is being recognized for its pharmacist-led transformation of immunization access among the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California. Serving approximately 3,000 patients across four tribal communities spanning 40 miles, they have implemented systematic EPIC and IIS (Nevada WebIZ and California’s RIDE) reviews, partnered with five primary care and walk-in providers, and brought vaccines into community centers, back-to-school events, and cultural festivals.

During the 2025–2026 respiratory virus season, the health center, for the first time, fully utilized its pre-ordered influenza vaccine dose supply, while also delivering COVID-19 doses, adult RSV vaccinations, and pediatric RSV monoclonal antibody doses. Year-over-year influenza vaccination rates have risen by 10 percent, 6 percent, and 7 percent over the last three seasons, with projected additional gains, alongside increased uptake of hepatitis B, PCV-20, HPV, Tdap, and zoster vaccines. Through sensory-friendly tools, motivational interviewing, VFC access, and cross-state coordination, Washoe Tribal Health has reduced geographic, cultural, and financial barriers and demonstrated how a pharmacist can serve as both clinician and public health advocate.



Nancy Caddigan, PharmD
Clinical Pharmacist & Vaccine Coordinator



Honorable Mention Winners

Special Recognition

THANK YOU to the members of the NAIIS Awards Committee:

◆ Shelle Allen (FFF)

◆ Carolyn Bridges (Immunize.org)

◆ Claire Hannan (AIM)

◆ *Mitchel Rothholz, (Three-C Consulting), chair

◆ Michele Slafkosky (FFF)

◆ Elizabeth Sobczyk (PALTC)

◆ LJ Tan (Immunize.org)

* = did not vote, unless there was a tie

ACCESS NAIIS INFORMATION AND RESOURCES AT: <https://www.izsummitpartners.org/>

About the National Adult & Influenza Immunization Summit



National Adult
and Influenza
Immunization
Summit

The National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit, started in the year 2000 (as the National Influenza Vaccine Summit), is an action-oriented entity with more than 700 members who represent more than 130 public and private organizations with an interest in addressing and resolving influenza and adult vaccine issues. Visit the Summit's website at izsummitpartners.org

STANDARDS FOR ADULT IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES

The National Vaccine Advisory Committee's revised Standards for Adult Immunization Practice were released on September 10, 2013. The NVAC standards recognize the importance of the healthcare provider recommendation for patients to receive needed vaccines, the current low vaccination rates among U.S. adults, and reflect the changed environment within which adult vaccines are now given. The standards were published in the March/April 2014 issue of *Public Health Reports*.

ALL healthcare professionals should take the following steps to ensure that adult patients are fully immunized and have maximum protection from serious diseases.

1. **ASSESS** immunization status of all patients in every clinical encounter.
2. **SHARE** a strong recommendation for vaccines that patients need.
3. **ADMINISTER** needed vaccines or REFER to a provider who can immunize.
4. **DOCUMENT** vaccines administered or received by your patients.

NAIIS In Action