

2013 - 2014

NH

# VaX Facts<sup>SM</sup>

**NHVA** New Hampshire  
Vaccine Association

## Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As NHVA's 12th year in operation draws to a close, we are pleased to report even greater increases in childhood vaccination coverage and carrier participation. Thanks to the efforts of NHVA's stakeholders—insurers, providers, and the NH Departments of Insurance and Health & Human Services—NH's universal vaccine purchase program has created an even more accurate and equitable assessment system. As a result of the combined efforts of these groups, we are happy to report that our costs for the year remained lower than expected, creating a substantial surplus that will be used to reduce costs to payers in the upcoming year. NH's universal vaccination program set a new record in reducing healthcare costs, producing a cumulative savings total of over \$54 MM dollars.

We are extremely grateful for all the hard work NH's legislature invested in updating NHVA's governing statute. NH's legislation has enabled NHVA to accommodate the systemic changes in the industry due to the implementation of the federal mandates, as required under the Affordable Care Act. As membership moves into healthcare exchanges, further flexibility is needed to keep NHVA current with shifting healthcare structures. Overall, the program has performed admirably. NHVA is thankful for your continued interest in the state's funding of vaccine purchase as it works to protect the lives of NH's children.

*Susan M. Tenney*  
Susan M. Tenney, Board Chair

*Fred L. Potter*  
Fred L. Potter, Executive Director

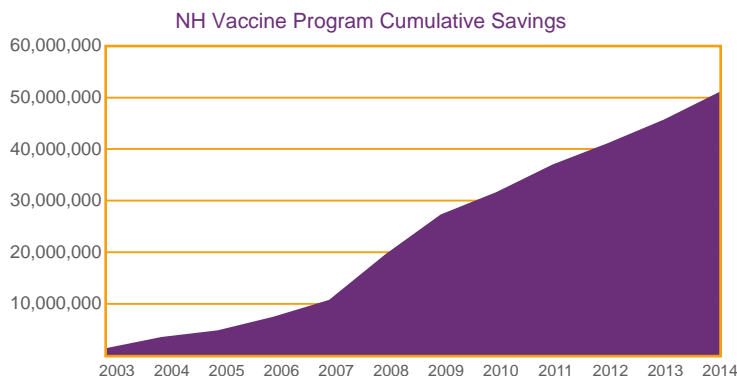
[WWW.NHVACCINE.ORG](http://WWW.NHVACCINE.ORG)

## What is a Universal Purchase Program?

A universal vaccine purchasing program allows a state to purchase essential vaccines for all children, regardless of insurance coverage or income. New Hampshire's program enables state purchase of vaccines for every resident family and to distribute the vaccines to providers, like doctors' offices and hospitals, at no out of pocket cost to the provider or family. The New Hampshire Vaccine Association ("NHVA") funds its universal purchase program through a cooperative approach involving health insurers, providers, and the NH Departments of Insurance and Health & Human Services.

## How does the Universal Purchase Program lower health care costs?

As a universal purchase state, New Hampshire qualifies to purchase vaccines at a substantially discounted federal rate from vaccine manufacturers. State and federal dollars fund vaccines for low-income and other federally-eligible children, while NHVA covers vaccine costs for privately insured children through assessments collected from insurance carriers. This approach allows state health officials to manage the supply of vaccines, thereby lowering providers' administrative costs and ensuring that the state can quickly supply vaccines to vulnerable patient groups during emergencies or vaccine shortages.



Beyond these immediate savings, improved immunization rates will produce long-term savings by eliminating both direct costs of extended treatment and indirect societal costs associated with illness such as missed school, work, disability, or even death.

## How does the Universal Purchase Program improve childhood health?

New Hampshire's universal purchase program ensures that every child who enters a medical provider's office, clinic, or hospital can receive life-saving vaccines at no out of pocket expense as the program makes vaccines available to all health care providers. In turn, more providers offer immunization services because providers no longer have to finance the up-front costs of vaccines out of their own pockets or be burdened with complex ordering systems. As a result, New Hampshire has one of the highest immunization rates in the country, benefiting all New Hampshire citizens. High immunization rates protect vaccinated children, while also protecting individuals whom are unable to receive vaccinations due to allergies or other health problems. A higher immunization rate lowers the odds are that an unvaccinated person will encounter a person carrying a disease.





## A Message from the Division of Public Health Services

When asked why New Hampshire is able to meet or nearly meet the Healthy People 2020 targets set for childhood and immunizations year after year, I credit three critical elements. The first is the parents who choose to protect their children with the most basic of preventive measure— vaccination. By the time children in New Hampshire enter kindergarten, 97% of them have been vaccinated against some of the most harmful diseases known to humankind.

Secondly, medical providers in New Hampshire have structured their practices to recommend and offer childhood vaccinations to the families they serve. Over 90% of our children are vaccinated against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis, measles, mumps and rubella, polio, hepatitis B and varicella. New Hampshire adolescents are also being vaccinated at rates that surpass the Healthy People 2020 Objectives. In 2013, 94.7% of adolescents were vaccinated against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis, 91.6% against varicella and 85.6% against meningococcal disease.

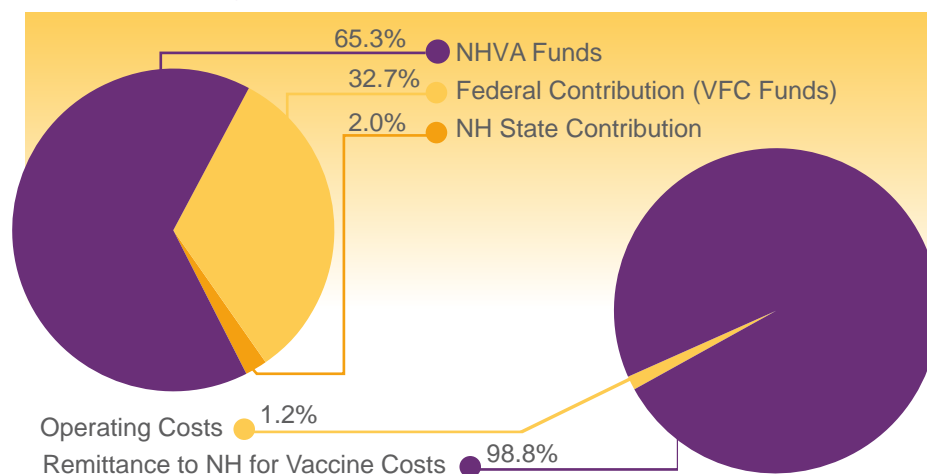
And third, the New Hampshire Vaccine Association, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the State and Federal Governments have passed legislation and implemented policies to pay for childhood and adolescent vaccines. By paying for vaccines, these funders have made it easy for parents and medical providers to choose vaccinations to keep New Hampshire families healthy.

José Thier Montero, JTM, MD, MHCDS  
Director, Division of Public Health Services  
[www.DHHS.NH.gov/DPHS](http://www.DHHS.NH.gov/DPHS)

## FINANCIALS

July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

### Vaccine Funding Sources (Estimated Total: \$24,490,220)



### NHVA Program Expenditures (Total: \$16,205,539)

- References:**
1. For the annual savings analysis visit: [www.NHvaccine.org/savings/2014](http://www.NHvaccine.org/savings/2014)
  2. For the audited financial statements visit: [www.NHvaccine.org/audit/2014](http://www.NHvaccine.org/audit/2014)
  3. The total expenditure amount does not include a \$3,229,741 reserve increase in FYE 6/30/2014. Those funds are reserved by NHVA for future vaccine purchases and operating costs.



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