



Immunization Help from BCBS Care Van Program -

The Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana Care Van is a **community partnership and outreach program that provides vaccines** to Montanans, with an emphasis on underserved populations. **Care Van teams up with community health officials and other providers to administer vaccines at no cost, or low cost, to patients.** The program brings services to Montana's rural and underserved areas, as well as centralized locations in populated areas.



Care Van staff does not provide direct care. Staff facilitates immunization clinics and helps partners accomplish the event goals. Ultimately, it works as a team where Care Van provides resources and support and partners provide service. You can visit their webpage [for more information or to set up a Care Van event](#), or contact **Bryan Haines** by phone at 406-437-6198 or email at bryan_haines@bcbsmt.com.

"Talk to a Human" ACA Enrollment Assistance in Montana -



Decisions made about health insurance are complicated. If your clients/patients need assistance, there is a [Montana specific website](#) that helps to remove the guesswork.

One of the best resources on the site is the "Talk to a Human" page. If you scroll down below the introductory text there is a **searchable spreadsheet of all the Certified Assistors in Montana.** The page also explains the difference between the three different types of helpers: Navigators, Certified Application Counselors, and Certified Insurance Agents.

Important Dates for 2016 Enrollment:

- ❖ **November 1, 2015:** Open Enrollment started — first day for enrolling in a 2016 insurance plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace. Coverage can start as soon as January 1, 2016.
- ❖ **December 15, 2015:** Last day to enroll in or change plans for new coverage to start January 1, 2016
- ❖ **January 1, 2016:** 2016 coverage starts for those who enroll or change plans by December 15.
- ❖ **January 15, 2016:** Last day to enroll in or change plans for new coverage to start February 1, 2016
- ❖ **January 31, 2016:** Open Enrollment ends. Enrollments or changes between January 16 and January 31 take effect March 1, 2016.

HealthyChildren.Org, AAP Website Packed with Information -

The [American Academy of Pediatrics has created a website](#) full of trust- worthy information for parents and caregivers. It's organized into seven stages of development: Prenatal, Baby, Toddler, Preschool, Gradeschool, Teen, and Young Adult.



Near the bottom of the home page there are also **links to: News, Ask the Pediatrician, E-Magazines, Immunization Schedules, a Symptom Checker, Apps for Families, and Newsletters.**

Children Getting Drunk on Hand Sanitizer -

Since 2010, poison control center hotlines across the United States have seen a nearly **400% increase in calls related to children younger than 12 ingesting hand sanitizer**, according to new analysis by the [Georgia Poison Center](#). Teens are drinking it as well.



"Kids are getting into these products more frequently, and unfortunately, there's a percentage of them going to the emergency room," said Dr. Gaylord Lopez, the center's director. **The amount of alcohol in hand sanitizer ranges from 45% to 95%.** Ingesting even small amounts -- as little as two or three squirts in some cases -- can cause alcohol poisoning. By comparison, wine and beer contain about 12% and 5% alcohol. [Read the full news story and watch a 1-minute video.](#)

Combat Cold Weather Slips & Falls – 9 Defenses to Keep You Upright

Winter can be treacherous, even during a short walk to the car! **A cracked elbow or wrenched knee is no fun.** Here is an [engaging 3 minute video](#) on 9 safety reminders to prevent these kinds of accidents.

The [OSHA Winter Weather: Plan. Equip. Train.](#) webpage provides in-depth information for specific types of tasks that Montanans may have to carry out under adverse conditions.



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