



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 6, 2009 – 1:52pm

McHenry County Department of Health
2200 N. Seminary Avenue
Woodstock IL 60098

CONTACT: Debra Quackenbush, Community Information Coordinator
PHONE: 815-334-4510

McHenry County has 2nd confirmed case of H1N1 (swine flu)

WOODSTOCK – McHenry County Department of Health's (MCDH) confirms its 2nd case of H1N1 – a 6 year old female from Algonquin. Testing was done a week ago, with results provided earlier today by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH).

MCDH is working closely with all schools and have provided the latest guidance and recommendations from IDPH and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). School closure is not advised for a confirmed case unless there is a "magnitude of faculty or student absenteeism that interferes with the school's ability to function." According to the CDC, the vast majority of cases have been mild.

"We know a lot more about this virus than we did 10 days ago", states Patrick J. McNulty, MCDH's Public Health Administrator. "The focus should not be on the number of cases but about practicing good hygiene as the best defense against the H1N1 virus. Wash your hands, cover your cough and stay home when you are ill so others won't get sick are all important steps to reduce infection. "

Downloadable, up-to-date information is available on the MCDH website www.mcdh.info and includes fact sheets, frequently asked questions (FAQs), posters and links to IDPH and CDC websites (in English and Spanish). An informational card was also recently mailed to residents

to reinforce prevention messages. MCDH's call center, staffed in part by the McHenry County Medical Reserve Corps, has been activated to address community concerns (815-334-2800) Monday to Friday, 8am-4:30pm.

This outbreak is ongoing and additional cases are expected. Access the CDC's webpage at www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu or call 1-800-CDC-INFO. In Spanish, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/espanol>.