

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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CONTACT: Jane Mather-Glass jane@cstrategies.com

VNA Health Care Urges Families to Make School and Sports Physical Appointments Now Before back to school season in August, VNA encourages parents to make sure their children complete any required appointments

Aurora, IL - VNA Health Care, the largest Community Health Center in the Chicago suburbs, is reminding parents to make appointments now for their children who need school and sports physicals ahead of the upcoming school year. In Illinois, school physicals are required for students entering kindergarten, sixth and ninth grades, or any student new to Illinois schools or changing school districts, while sports physicals are required for all athletes in school-sponsored athletic programs. Annual well-child exams are recommended for all children three years of age and older.

"We often see a rush of appointments in August as we get closer to the first days of school, and that's why we're reminding the communities we serve that the earlier you can get your child's required physicals done, the better," said VNA Health Care President and CEO Linnea Windel. "Kids and parents have enough to do in preparation for the back-to-school season, and getting these <u>screenings and immunizations</u> done earlier in the summer means that children can head back to the classroom happy and healthy — without the added stress of trying to fit in last-minute appointments or experiencing long wait times."

If these physicals and necessary paperwork are not completed in time, children may not be allowed to attend school. This means they might fall behind in their work or miss tryouts for a favorite school sport and lose their spot on a team.

VNA Health Care offers appointments, as well as same-day and walk-in care for busy families, for school and sports physicals at all of their locations across the Chicago suburbs. Patients are seen regardless of insurance status or ability to pay, and have access to services in multiple languages.

At VNA Health Care, patients can receive a wide range of high-quality care, including school physicals and immunizations; sports physicals; acute illness and injury care; wellness exams and routine health screenings; nutrition and weight counseling; reproductive health services; chronic illness care; smoking, vaping, alcohol and drug use prevention education; mental and behavioral health care; and pharmacy services, dental care, and resources for food and housing assistance.

Patients can make appointments with VNA online at <u>https://vnahealth.com/schedule/</u> or by calling 630-892-4355.

About VNA Health Care

VNA Health Care is the largest Community Health Center (also known as a Federally Qualified Health Center) in the Chicago suburbs. VNA provides comprehensive primary care, home care, and health and wellness

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programs to nearly 90,000 patients annually and has served people regardless of insurance status or ability to pay for more than 100 years. VNA strives to improve the standard of health for all with high-quality, accessible, and compassionate care delivered in VNA health centers, community settings, and patient homes. VNA has 15 health centers located in Aurora, Bensenville, Bolingbrook, Carol Stream, Elgin, Joliet, Romeoville, Villa Park, and Wheaton. To learn more, visit <u>www.vnahealth.com</u>.