

Vaccines for Children (VFC)

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KRHA 2021



KENTUCKY CABINET FOR
HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES



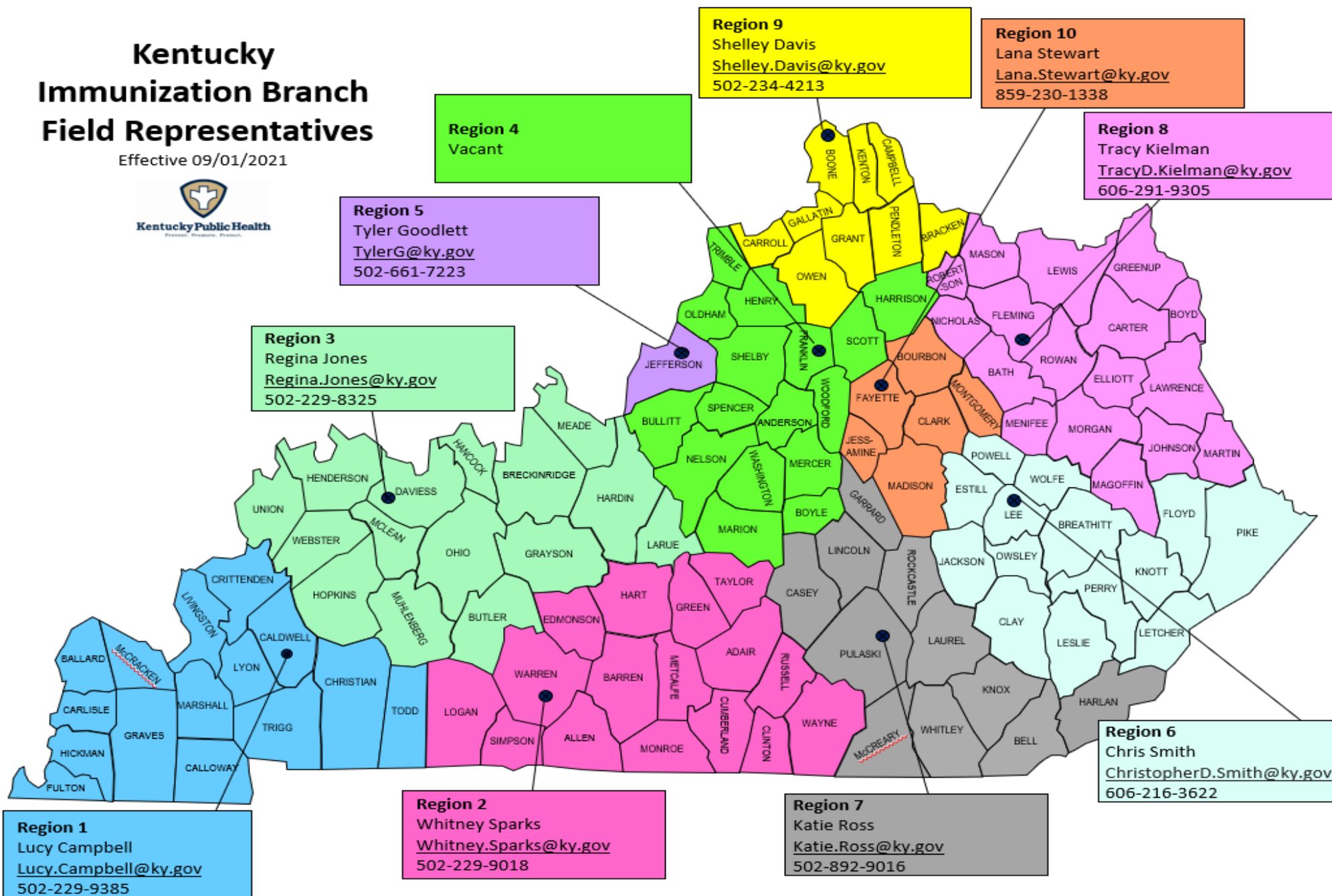
Kentucky Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

VFC – What is it?

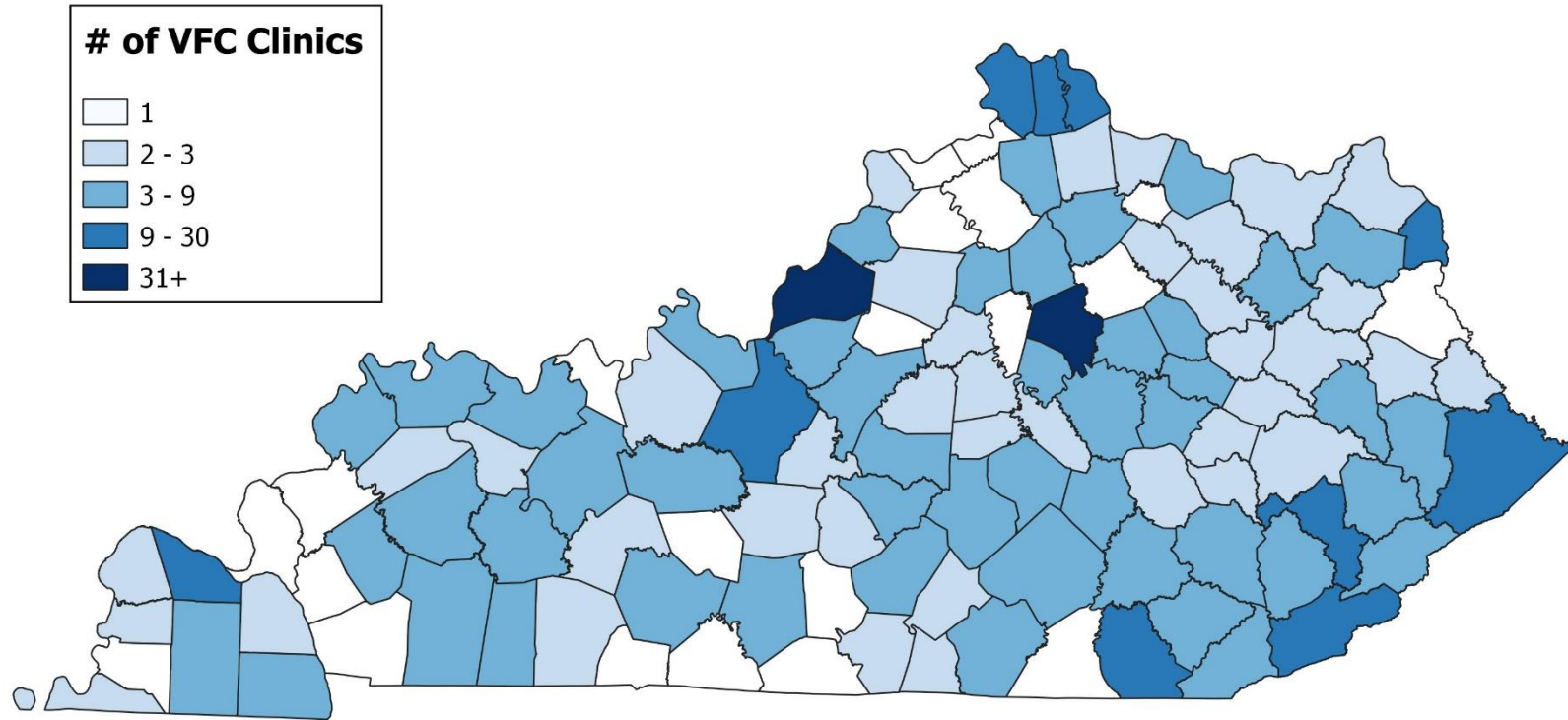
- Operational as of 10/01/1994 via the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OMBRA)
- Provides publically purchased vaccine, for eligible children, at no charge to healthcare providers
 - Covers all Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended vaccines. (routine and non-routine childhood vaccines)
- Currently has over 40,000 sites enrolled in the United States and over 600 in Kentucky
 - VFC sites are present in all 120 counties!

Kentucky Immunization Branch Field Representatives

Effective 09/01/2021



VFC Clinics in KY



Data Obtained from CDC's PEAR Database & Kentucky Geoportals Data Clearinghouse

Who is eligible? (Providers)

- Any medical provider who immunizes patients who meet the VFC eligibility criteria
 - Provider must be authorized to prescribe vaccines to eligible patients
- **Does not** have to be a pediatric office
 - Can be a public or private medical providers
 - Able to store vaccines at location of administration
 - Stand alone pharmacies are traditionally excluded from this program
- If you're already enrolled in the COVID program, you're already doing the majority of the work

Who is eligible? (Patients)

- VFC has strict, but simple eligibility criteria:
 - 18 or younger **AND**
 - Medicaid enrolled
 - Uninsured – Self pay
 - Underinsured* – Ex. A child who has commercial (private) insurance but the coverage:
 - Does not include vaccines
 - Only covers selected vaccines (eligible for non-covered vaccines only)
 - Caps vaccine coverage at a certain amount. (Cap must be met to be eligible)
 - American Indian or Alaskan Native

*Underinsured patients must receive vaccination at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or Local Health Dept

Requirements

- Vaccine Storage and Handling
 - Must have proper storage units (pharmaceutical, commercial, or household grade. Cannot be a combination-household unit)
 - Digital data loggers (DDL) must be used on every unit containing VFC vaccine
- Monthly/Daily requirements
 - Monthly reconciliation of your inventory within the Kentucky Immunization Registry (KYIR)
 - Recording min/max temps for each unit daily
 - Submitting monthly temp readings from your DDL
 - Must order once per year
- Primary and back-up vaccine coordinators at each location
 - Responsible for implementing the VFC program requirements

Storage and Handling

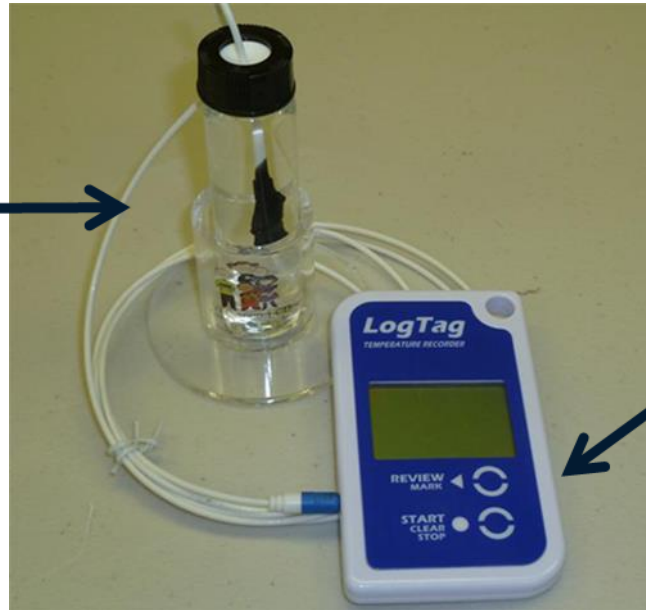
Storage Units



Digital Data Loggers

- Required to have a continuously recording, digital data logger in each storage unit, and one additional back-up on-site
- Each data logger must have a valid and current certificate of calibration

Detachable
probe in
glycol



Temperature
display kept
on outside of
unit

Temp Logs

Kentucky VFC Monthly FREEZER Temperature Log

VFC Pin: _____ Month/Year: _____



Take immediate action if temperature is too high (above 5°F)!

Day	Time	Min Temp	Max Temp	Staff Initials	Alarm/Action Taken	Weekly Stock Rotation
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
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8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
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31						

Record the min/max temperatures daily at the opening of the clinic of the previous 24 hours. If are alarms showing, take immediate action.
 Rotate stock weekly, moving vaccines expiring first in front of other vaccines to ensure use.

Kentucky VFC Monthly REFRIGERATOR Temperature Log

VFC Pin: _____ Month/Year: _____



Take immediate action if temperature is too low (below 36°F) or too high (above 46°F)!

Day	Time	Min Temp	Max Temp	Staff Initials	Alarm/Action Taken	Weekly Stock Rotation
1						
2						
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6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
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Record the min/max temperatures daily at the opening of the clinic of the previous 24 hours. If are alarms showing, take immediate action.
 Rotate stock weekly, moving vaccines expiring first in front of other vaccines to ensure use.

Screening, Documentation, and Training

Requirements (Continued)

➤ Screening and documentation

- Must screen and document eligibility at each visit
- All documentation must be kept for 3 years minimum
- Immunization data must be entered in KYIR or sent via an active KHIE connection.
- Federally required documentation:
 - Name of vaccine and date given
 - Manufacturer and lot number
 - Date VIS was given
 - VIS publication date
 - Administrator's name and title
 - Address of clinic

Kentucky Immunization Registry (KYIR)

- KYIR is Kentucky's web-based immunization information system at <https://kyir.chfs.ky.gov>
- All VFC providers are required to use KYIR to:
 - enroll and update the provider agreement and profile
 - add doses given and historical immunization records
 - order vaccines and manage vaccine inventories
 - upload temperature readings
- Kentucky Immunization Certificate – available in KYIR, no signature needed if printed from KYIR
- Vaccine Forecasting, Reminder/Recall, Reports, Training

KYIRHelpdesk@ky.gov

1-502-564-0038

Training Requirements

- The primary vaccine coordinator is responsible for the following:
 - Ensuring the annual CDC training modules are completed. (VFC and Storage and Handling)
 - One time KYIR training
 - Training staff who handle vaccines how to receive shipments, screen, and storage and handling requirements
 - Educational training may be provided if provider has difficulties adhering to the program

Site Visit Requirements

➤ Site Visits

- VFC Compliance – Every other year
- Unannounced – As needed
- Educational – As needed
- Immunization Quality Improvement for Providers (IQIP) – Used for increasing immunization/series completion rates

Benefits?

- Publically purchased childhood vaccines at no cost to the provider
- Creates a low point of entry into immunizations for those patients who are traditionally not engaging in the healthcare system
- Potentially increases immunization coverage in your area and provide quality care to vulnerable children and adolescents
- Sites are able to recoup the vaccine administration cost. Up to \$19.93 per shot for non-Medicaid eligible patients.=
- Reduces up-front costs
 - In 2020, one provider saved over \$940,000!*

*Data obtained from CDC's Provider Education Assessment and Reporting system

Benefits continued

- Health insurance is traditionally tied to employment
 - Many families have lost their job
 - Unemployment rate is still around 4.4% for Kentuckians
 - This is still higher than pre-pandemic levels
- Immunization rates in Kentucky have dropped tremendously since the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic
 - Still not back to pre-pandemic levels
 - Rates have increased since 2020

Enrollment Process

1. Reach out to your regional field representative with the following forms or request a copy of them:
 - KYIR Business agreement (one per organization)
 - KYIR Enrollment form (one per facility)
 - VFC Provider Agreement (one per facility)
 - CHFS219 forms (those who will need access to KYIR)
2. Your field rep will schedule an enrollment visit
3. Approval of your storage units
4. Ready to order
5. Compliance Visit six to twelve months after enrollment visit

Resources/Contact Info

- [KY VFC Website](#)
- [VFC Provider Agreement](#)
- [KYIR Business Agreement](#)
- [KYIR Enrollment](#)
- [CHFS219 Forms](#)
- [Vaccine Coordinator Duties](#)
- [Purchasing a DDL](#)

Thank you!