



Grandparents *For* Vaccines

A storytelling movement to protect every child's tomorrow.

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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January 19, 2026- Grandparents Sound Alarm as Measles Outbreaks Spread Among Unvaccinated Children

Grandparents for Vaccines, a national grassroots movement giving voice to the concern grandparents have for their grandchildren facing unnecessary harm, is calling on the nation to protect our grandchildren from the threat of measles. Our great nation ended the threat measles poses to our grandchildren in the year 2000. But today, we are moving in the opposite direction, inviting measles back into our lives, to threaten the lives and well-being of our grandchildren. Measles is now running unchecked in almost every state of our country.

The threat from measles is no accident. It is 100% attributable to the growing decision to not protect our grandchildren with the MMR, the measles vaccine. Use the MMR well, and measles will end. Abandon this protection and measles will rage.

“Measles is not a harmless childhood illness. It is a dangerous virus that can cause lifelong injury or death,” said Arthur Lavin, a retired pediatrician and founder of Grandparents for Vaccines. “Before vaccines, children were often hospitalized, permanently harmed, or worse. As a grandparent, it is heartbreaking to see preventable suffering return.”

The movement to not protect has now left 9 million of American grandchildren able to be infected by this disease that kills 1 in 1000 children infected. If the current outbreaks of measles are allowed to proceed unopposed, that could end up taking the lives of 9,000 of our grandchildren, a catastrophe America's grandparents call on our nation to prevent, now.

Grandparents for Vaccines urges parents to follow recommendations set forth by the American Academy for Pediatrics in addition to speaking to their own pediatrician for science-based guidance.

“When vaccination rates fall, it is not just individual families who are affected,” Lavin said. “It is the most vulnerable members of our communities who pay the price.”

Grandparents for Vaccines, a volunteer led organization, launched on September 7th, Grandparents Day. Their first op-ed in Progressive Perspectives, [“Why Grandparents Must Lead on Vaccines,”](#) sparked an overwhelming response, showing that the call for grandparents' voices in this national crisis resonates far beyond our own community. The organization is not led by policy, but by the story of lives, families, and generations at stake.

To learn more about Grandparents for Vaccines, visit <https://grandparentsforvaccines.com> or visit their YouTube Channel. For Grandparents and/or allies of children wanting to share their life-story before vaccines with others, visit grandparentsforvaccines.com/share-your-story

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