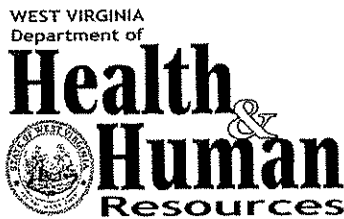


**For more information contact:**  
**Shannon Riley Landrum, Executive Assistant**  
**Bureau for Medical Services**  
**Office of the Commissioner**  
**Telephone: (304) 558-6006**  
**Fax: (304) 558-1451**

## **Medicaid Bureau partners with WVU School of Medicine**

The West Virginia Bureau for Medical Services and the West Virginia University School of Medicine have entered into an agreement for project management services for a set of federal grants known as transformation initiative grants and Mountain Health Choices, the state's new Medicaid program. The bureau has been in the process of redesigning the Medicaid program since 2005 with the ultimate goal of improving the health of low-income West Virginians.

West Virginia received five Medicaid transformation grants totaling \$13.8 million from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for the purpose of transforming the program. Jeffrey H. Coben, M.D., professor of emergency medicine and community medicine at West Virginia University School of Medicine will serve as the project manager of the transformation grant project. Coben and his team will assist the bureau in promoting health through personal responsibility and through improvements in the health care system.



For more information contact:  
Shannon L. Riley, Executive Assistant  
Bureau for Medical Services  
Office of the Commissioner  
Telephone: (304) 558-6006  
Fax: (304) 558-1451  
E-mail: [shannonriley@wvdhhr.org](mailto:shannonriley@wvdhhr.org)

## State releases tamper resistant prescription pad requirements

Beginning April 1, 2008, the Department of Health and Human Resources will require prescriptions for Medicaid members to be written on prescription pads/paper with at least one or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent unauthorized copying, modification or use. This requirement applies only to prescriptions written for Medicaid members and is necessary in order for the state to receive federal matching funds for prescription drugs.

Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Medical Services, worked with the federal government, state Medicaid providers and representatives of professional associations to implement this federal requirement. Peggy King, the bureau's pharmacy director, states, "We have chosen security features that are most economical and reasonable to implement within the time frame available to comply with the federal law." More information on the requirements for tamper resistant prescription pads is available at [www.wvdhhr.org/bms](http://www.wvdhhr.org/bms)

WEST VIRGINIA  
Department of



For more information contact:  
Marsha Dadisman, Public Information Specialist  
Office of Communications and Legislative Affairs  
Telephone: (304) 558-7899  
Fax: (304) 558-7075  
E-mail: [mdadisman@wvdhhr.org](mailto:mdadisman@wvdhhr.org)

## Scarberry named community services manager

Betty Jo Scarberry has been named community services manager for the Jackson/Mason/Roane District, for the Bureau for Children and Families within the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources. Scarberry has 28 years of service with the State of West Virginia and has been with DHHR since 1979. She has served in many capacities, most recently as the manager of client services.

Scarberry is a native and life-long resident of Jackson County. She and her family live in Kenna. Scarberry is a graduate of West Virginia University-Parkersburg.

WEST VIRGINIA  
Department of



For more information contact:  
Teresa Mace, Media Director  
West Virginia Division of Tobacco Prevention  
Phone: 304-558-7072 Fax: 558-2285  
Email: [teresamace@wvdhhr.org](mailto:teresamace@wvdhhr.org)

**For Immediate Release**

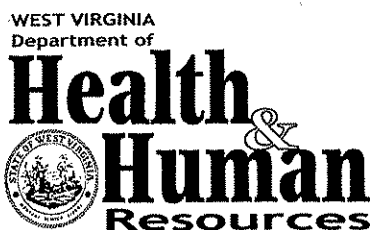
**Statewide college program holding anti-tobacco carnival at West Virginia State University campus**

West Virginia college students, community leaders and local residents are all encouraged to attend the first *Against Tobacco Carnival*, to be held both outside and inside the Wilson Student Union, rain or shine, on Saturday April 12, from 10a.m.- 2p.m.

The *Against Tobacco Carnival* will feature national motivational speaker Sean Stephenson. He will address how tobacco can cause people to make excuses that can hold them back from doing the things that they would like to or know that they need to do in life.

"This will be a fun and important day, especially for college students," said James Vance program coordinator for the Against Tobacco college initiative. "There are 14 colleges from across West Virginia in this program. Trying to affect this age group is crucial in the fight against preventable diseases and loss of life in our state," said Vance.

There will be a variety of carnival activities and learning experiences available for everyone. To learn more about The *Against Tobacco Carnival* and the Against Tobacco college program, please call James Vance, college program coordinator at (304) 558-1747 or by visiting the program website at [www.againsttobacco.com](http://www.againsttobacco.com).



For more information contact:  
Toby Wagoner, Public Information Specialist  
WVDHHR Immunization Program  
Office 304-558-6438 Fax: 304-558-1899  
E-mail: [tobywagoner@wvdhhr.org](mailto:tobywagoner@wvdhhr.org)

April 18, 2008

**For immediate release:**

**National Infant Immunization Week is April 19-26, 2008**

The West Virginia Immunization Program and the West Virginia Immunization Network are encouraging healthcare providers and parents to ensure their young children are protected against pertussis (whooping cough) during National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) April 19 – 26, 2008.

Pertussis is a highly contagious respiratory tract infection that causes uncontrollable coughing that makes it difficult for infants to eat, drink and breathe. Although pertussis initially resembles an ordinary cold, whooping cough is most contagious before the coughing starts. This serious vaccine-preventable disease can lead to pneumonia, seizures, brain damage and death. Over the past two years, West Virginia has averaged 50 confirmed cases of pertussis including one fatality in 2005. Adults are also susceptible to pertussis. Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) indicate that 27% of all cases of pertussis reported occurred in adults.

During this weeklong celebration, parents are encouraged to check with their family physician or local health department to discuss their child's immunization. Many health care providers and health departments will be offering local immunization clinics to join in the fight against pertussis by offering vaccinations to both children and adults.

National Infant Immunization Week is an annual observance to promote the benefits of immunization and to focus on the importance of immunizing infants against vaccine-preventable diseases by age two. Since 1994, NIIW has provided an excellent opportunity for local and state health departments, national immunization partners, healthcare providers, and community leaders from across the country to highlight the positive impact of immunization on the lives of infants and children and to call attention to immunization achievements.