

**MEASLES NOTIFICATION LETTER TEMPLATE TO INFORM PARENTS  
THAT A MEASLES CASE HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AT THEIR CHILD'S CAMP**

*[Date]*

Dear Parent or Guardian:

This letter is to inform you that a child or staff member with measles was present at *[your child's camp]* on *[dates]*. Measles spreads very easily by air and by direct contact. You can get measles by simply being in the same room (or shared air space) up to 2 hours after someone who has measles was there. Measles is very contagious, and we want you to provide you with information.

Usually about 7-12 days (but up to 21 days) after exposure, measles begins with a mild to moderate fever accompanied by cough, runny nose, and red eyes. Two or three days later, the fever spikes, often as high as 104-105°F. At the same time, a red blotchy rash appears, usually first on the face, along the hairline and behind the ears. The rash rapidly spreads downward to the chest and back and, finally, to the thighs and feet. One in every 20 people with measles develops pneumonia and, more rarely, serious, even life-threatening complications can occur.

Most children who are fully vaccinated are protected from measles. Only about 3 in 100 who get two doses of measles vaccine will still get measles if exposed to the virus.

Measles vaccine, which is given in combination with rubella and mumps vaccine (MMR) is effective and safe, and two doses are recommended for children. If your child has not received MMR vaccine or has only received one dose, we recommend that you contact your healthcare provider for immunization as soon as possible. If you do not have a healthcare provider, your child may receive the immunization for a fee at the *[Name of County]* Public Health Clinic located at *[address]* on *[days]* from *[opening time]* to *[closing time]*. If your child is not vaccinated and was exposed to the person with measles, they should be taken out of camp and kept home for 21 days. Or, if they develop signs of measles, they should be kept home until four days after the onset of measles rash. If an unvaccinated child receives a dose of MMR vaccine within 72 hours after their initial exposure to the case-patient, they may remain in camp.

**If your child develops an illness with fever (101°F or more), cough, runny nose or red eyes, with or without rash**, immediately call your doctor and let them know about your symptoms so that they can tell you what to do next. Your doctor can make special arrangements to evaluate you, if needed, without putting other patients and medical office staff at risk. If you have any questions call the *[Name of County]* Health Department, at *[telephone number]*.

Sincerely,

*[Health Officer's Name]*

*[Name of County]* Health Officer