OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY
The Arizona Immunization Program was approached by an outside group to assist with planning its new initiative to increase employee vaccination through education and on-site vaccine clinics during the 2013-2014 influenza season.

BACKGROUND/IMPETUS FOR THE ACTIVITY
The CEO of Scientific Technologies Corporation (STC), which is Arizona’s immunization information system (IIS) vendor headquartered in Arizona, is involved in developing a new initiative around worksite vaccination. The project is marketed to employers, with the goal of reducing absenteeism through vaccination. After conducting a small pilot during the 2012-2013 influenza season, STC approached the Arizona Immunization Program and the statewide immunization coalition to assist with its expanded effort for the 2013-2014 influenza season.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY
During the 2013-2014 influenza season, this initiative, now called All American Flu Fighters (A2F2), signed up 20 companies in Arizona and provided on-site vaccinators with access to the state IIS to determine the number of employees with a record in the IIS and assess which immunizations were due or past due. As announced by STC in July 2015, annual membership in A2F2 is now available nationally. A $199 annual membership fee provides employers with a resource kit (e.g., training webinars for pharmacy staff, recruitment materials) to hold their own clinics. For an additional fee ($49 per clinic), A2F2 will set up and run the clinics.

ROLE OF IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM AND OTHER AGENCIES/GROUPS INVOLVED
The Immunization Program provided feedback on the project’s materials during the 2013-2014 influenza season. The Immunization Program is no longer directly involved, and does not officially endorse or advertise the A2F2 program. STC initiated and manages the project.

DISSEMINATION
Membership in the A2F2 program is available online.

INTERSECTION WITH OTHER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES
Not at this time.

FUNDING
No funding for this activity came from the Immunization Program. Staff time for review of A2F2 materials was concurrent with other activities.
STAFFING
Immunization Program staff provided input on the materials used for the employee vaccination campaign.

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS
The Immunization Program’s involvement was concentrated in the 2013-2014 influenza season.

SUCCESSES
• Efforts to expand workplace vaccination and employee education programs are important, even if the Immunization Program is not directly involved.

CHALLENGES
• Several groups within the health department (e.g., hospital acquired infections group) and a large county health department were preparing influenza campaign messaging during the same timeframe. Immunization Program staff worked to have consistent messaging across these initiatives; however, it was challenging as each group had their own missions, strategies, and key messages. The Immunization Program opted not to continue its involvement with A2F2.
• Project data are housed at STC; data are not shared with the Immunization Program, so it is unclear how many and which employers are involved.
• This activity has the potential to increase the number of adult doses entered into the state IIS, but the program is unaware of whether any new individuals or doses have been added to the IIS as a result of A2F2.

OTHER LESSONS LEARNED/ADVICE TO OTHER PROGRAMS
• Any opportunity to spread the word about vaccination is valuable, so it is worth trying to figure out a way to support the work of external groups, if possible, even if it is behind the scenes and the Immunization Program cannot officially endorse the materials.

RELEVANT RESOURCES
• A2F2 website: http://allamericanflufighters.org/
  (Note: Access to resource kit materials requires paid membership.)

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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