

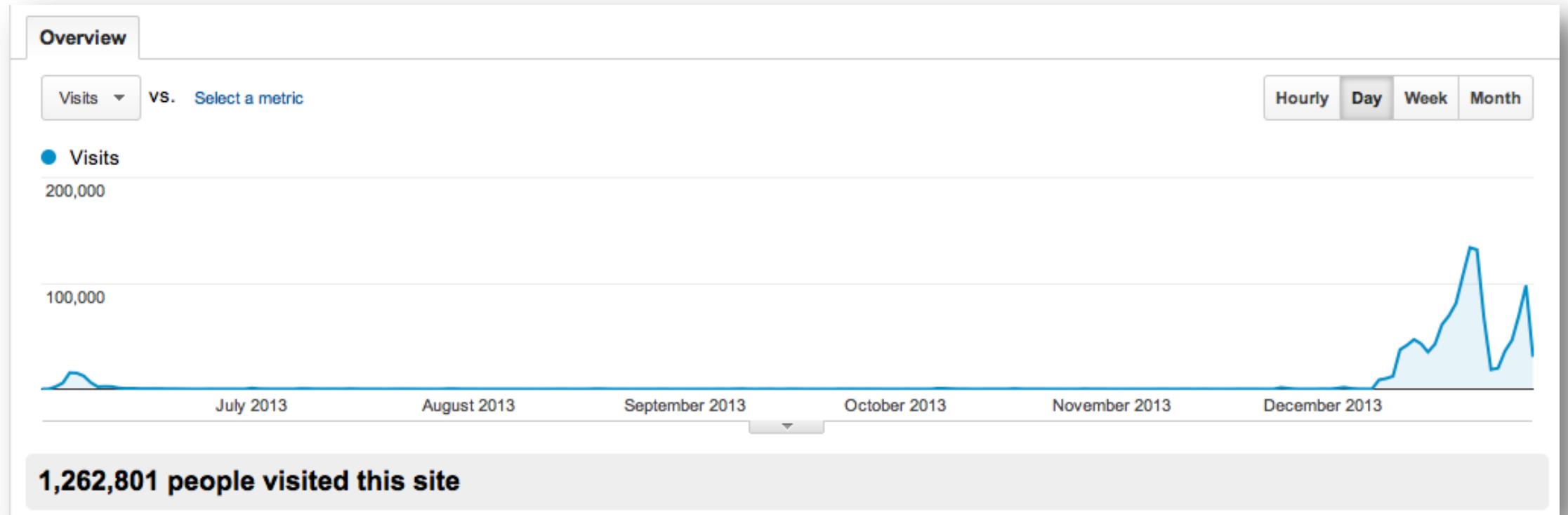
Voices for Vaccines

What we've done—Where we're going

Presented by

Karen Ernst and Ashley Shelby

Getting heard; going viral



Why the interest in Voices for Vaccines?

Voices for Vaccines

PARENTS SPEAKING UP FOR IMMUNIZATION

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Growing Up Unvaccinated



I am the 70s child of a health nut. I wasn't vaccinated. I was brought up on an incredibly healthy diet: no sugar til I was one, breastfed for over a year, organic homegrown vegetables, raw milk, no MSG, no additives, no aspartame. My mother used [homeopathy](#), aromatherapy, osteopathy, we took daily supplements of vitamin C, echinacea, cod liver oil. I had an outdoor lifestyle; I grew up next to a farm, walked everywhere, did sports and danced twice a week, drank plenty of water. I wasn't even allowed pop; even my fresh juice was watered down to protect my teeth, and I would've killed for white, shop-bought bread in my lunch box once in a while and biscuits instead of fruit like all the other kids. We only ate (organic local) meat maybe once or twice a week and my mother and father cooked everything from scratch – I have yet to taste a Findus crispy pancake and oven chips were reserved for those nights when mum and dad had friends over and we got a "treat."

Categories

- [Autism](#)
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- [Chickenpox](#)
- [Down Syndrome](#)
- [I Vaccinate Because](#)
- [Immunocompromised Children](#)
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Hooked with the message; staying for action



Turning 'clicktivists' into activists



The billboard features a blue background with the text "VACCINATIONS? KNOW THE RISKS AND FAILURES." in white. Below the text is the NVIC.org logo. To the right of the text is a photograph of a woman smiling and kissing a baby. The billboard is mounted on a metal structure against a clear blue sky.

Voices for Vaccines
Liked · Thursday, October 17 at 2:31pm

Here we go again. Anti-vaxxers have placed billboards with dangerous anti-vaccine messages along the Jersey Turnpike, and they plan on keeping them there for the rest of the year.

This time, Lamar Advertising is hosting the misinformed advertising. Please contact them, and politely let them know that removing the signs would protect the lives of children.

<http://www.lamar.com/About/Support/ContactUs>

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Melody Anne Butler, [Elizabeth Karstens Faber](#) and 24 others like this.

3 shares

View previous comments 6 of 84

Kelly M. Bray Mostly you are simply ranting the

Making advocacy easy



Petitioned Bill Geddie ▾

ABC's The View: Just Say No to adding Jenny McCarthy to The View

Petition by
Voices for Vaccines

Petition Closed

with 12,302 supporters

12,302 signatures

Supporters are signing:



[Let hotel phones dial 911 easily: Enact Karl's Law](#)



[President Obama: Commutation for Weldon Angelos - 55 years for marijuana](#)



[American Girl: Release an American Girl with a disability](#)

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Providing tools to advocate locally

Kick the Flu out of School

Dear Parents and School Leaders,

Thank you for your interest in hosting a flu vaccine contest at your school. We have developed a number of materials for you to use at your school, including a [letter to send home to families](#) introducing the contest, [entry forms](#), and a [donation solicitation letter template](#). We encourage you to personalize these items to make them specific to your school and its needs.

We also encourage you to be creative about your drawing. You might solicit donations from your local business community for prizes, such as gift certificates to shops and restaurants in your area. You could also offer prizes that are free to you, such as an exclusive pajama party in the school library on a select Friday night or the winner being Principal for a Day. Some schools might also elect to have school-wide incentives. For example, perhaps the first class to have a 100% participation could have a pizza party. Or maybe the principal shaves his mustache after a certain number of students enter the contest.

The drawing itself can also be a fun event. Gathering students for the drawing could be a fantastic celebration itself, and we encourage you to get creative in order to make getting the influenza vaccine a fun experience.

Download and edit our letters and forms to personalize them for your school. Look for phrases **in red**: these need your personal touch. **A note about the dates:** We have left the due dates blank. Flu season often hits its peak in January and February, but begins as early as October some years. You may elect to choose dates that allow the majority of your students to be immunized before flu season is expected to hit its peak, or you might remind students that it's never too late to get vaccinated. We encourage you to choose a date that will insure maximum immunization rates for your community.

If you have any needs or questions about this event, please contact us at info@voicesforvaccines.org.



Protecting Newborns: The Extended Family's Role



Information about how you
can use immunizations to
keep new babies safe

Inviting everyone to the conversation



Monthly Conference
Calls



Keeping everyone in the loop



Dear <<First Name>>,

It is an exciting time to be pro-vaccine. As more parents speak up about immunization, more opportunities emerge for advocacy and solidarity in order to keep our communities healthy and engaged. This month we invite you to take the next step and to help us reach out to the broader community and encourage them proudly wear their pro-vaccine badge.

Pro-Child, Pro-Community, Pro-Vaccine: The T-Shirt

We need your help! We'd like our members to be able to display their pride in being pro-vaccine. We asked our crack design squad to come up with a t-shirt design, but they came back with this:



Keeping the Pro-Vaccine message going



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PARENTS SPEAKING UP FOR IMMUNIZATION

Home About Vaccines Tools Parents Who Vax Join Us Support

When It's Not a Choice: Measles and Leukemia

Prior to our son's possible exposure to measles, I did not think about how my choice to vaccinate my children affected anyone but my own child. But when measles was brought close to my son Ben, my insulated view was shattered.

My decision about vaccination could impact anyone my children would come in contact with for their entire lives. If one of my children was infected with a vaccine-preventable illness, he could unknowingly pass this illness on. While a person with an average immune system may be able to fight off the illness, a person with a weakened immune system might not. I now recognize one way our family can protect the greater community. Here's the story of how we came to realize that vaccines are about more than just our family.

In 2010 our then two-year-old son, Ben, was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL). His diagnosis meant he would spend more than three years being treated with chemotherapies



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- Influenza
- Measles
- Meningitis
- Natural Parenting

What's next?

- New Parent Toolkit
- Focus on blogging about HPV vaccines during Cervical Cancer Awareness monthly
- Asking parents to speak up in their local communities
- Making the voice advocating for vaccines louder in all communities

VoicesForVaccines.org/join-us

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Join Us

Voices for Vaccines is an organization that relies on membership for its viability and its vitality. We're thrilled you're interested in Voices for Vaccines. Please take a moment to fill out our membership form. There is no cost to join Voices for Vaccines. Membership gives you access to our newsletter and action alerts, as well as invitations to monthly conference calls with medical experts, public health officials, and other prominent voices in the vaccine discussion. Joining Voices for Vaccines also adds you to the count of those who appreciate the vital importance of vaccines.

Your information will be kept private.

Name *

First Last

Email *

Phone

Address

Street Address

Address Line 2

City **State / Province / Region**

ZIP / Postal Code **Country**

