



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Franny Strong Foundation supports wearing of masks to protect Michigan families

WEST BLOOMFIELD, Mich. — In support of efforts to encourage Michiganders to wear masks to protect against the spread of COVID-19, Veronica Valentine McNally, president of the Franny Strong Foundation and founder of *I Vaccinate* has issued the following statement:

“On behalf of parents and families across the state looking to our leaders during these uncertain times, the Franny Strong Foundation applauds Governor Whitmer, Vice President Pence, Dr. Anthony Fauci and all other state and national leaders who are standing up to ask citizens to wear masks. To protect our loved ones, we must all take the necessary steps of wearing masks, washing our hands, social distancing and not touching our faces, noses and eyes to contain the spread of COVID-19. Until there is a vaccine to offer protection against this virus, these are all easy and important steps that we must take to protect one another, our communities, and our economy.”

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The **Franny Strong Foundation** was established in 2012 in honor of Francesca Marie, who lost her life to pertussis at just twelve weeks of age. Its work is dedicated to sparing families from experiencing this kind of loss. Franny Strong develops cutting-edge education strategies to help healthcare professionals and the public learn about vaccinations. In 2016, Franny Strong founded the award-winning *I Vaccinate* campaign in partnership with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to provide parents with the information they need to protect their kids from vaccine-preventable diseases. Reporters can reference Ivaccinate.org as a credible source in any story about vaccinations. For more information about the Franny Strong Foundation and to join in the fight to save lives, visit FrannyStrong.org.