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NJ Rallies Again For Vaccination Choice at William Paterson University on October 16

Large Numbers of Concerned Voters Gather at Governor's Debate in Wayne

Middletown, October 13, 2009 - Life Health Choices and the **New Jersey Coalition for Vaccination Choice (NJCVVC)** announce a public rally at William Paterson University in Wayne, NJ on October 16, starting at 4:00 pm, just a few hours prior to Friday's televised gubernatorial debate.

With pandemic swine flu headlines dominating the press, and half of all adults refusing to get the controversial new H1N1 vaccine, there is heightened awareness about the importance of vaccination choice. The entire New Jersey Assembly is up for re-election or retirement in November. Candidates and incumbents are expected to join other speakers in sending a pointed message to the three leading candidates vying for New Jersey's chief executive slot, and to the large number of media outlets who will be on site covering the debate.

Hundreds of voters, parents, health care workers, students and concerned citizens are expected to gather outside the Shea Performing Arts Center this Friday afternoon at the site of the governor's second debate on William Paterson University's campus.

The nation's first "Freedom of Choice" rally was held in Trenton on October 16, 2008. Over 700 people and three dozen speakers rallied to demonstrate deep and widespread support across the state for A260/S1071, the Conscientious Exemption to Mandatory Immunization bill, an event that drew both widespread national and state-wide media attention. As quoted in the Star Ledger and captured on video last fall during a "front lawn rally" in Middletown, Governor Corzine admitted that he gets more calls and letters on this issue than any other except tolls. These pleas have failed to create the political will to move the bill and it continues to languish in the Assembly and Senate.

"Vaccine mandates make people mad and they can backfire, creating distrust and weakening public confidence in the nation's vaccine program," says Louise Kuo Habakus, founder of Life Health Choices and a leading NJCVVC member. Habakus is alluding to four new vaccine mandates (including the contentious seasonal flu shot) announced in 2007 and the possible link to a downward trend in vaccine compliance in the Garden State, as reported in this article: *U.S. survey shows fewer children in N.J. getting vaccinated* (<http://tinyurl.com/yf3nulb>).

In related news, national autism organizations Generation Rescue and Autism One join forces to tackle the number one pediatric health crisis in the world. The Wayne vaccination choice rally kicks off their national neighborhood campaign to demand parental health freedom rights and solutions to the epidemic of chronic and developmental disorders plaguing our children. Details coming soon at <http://www.generationrescue.org>.

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Life Health Choices is an advocacy organization dedicated to improving lives, building community and creating change through informed choices affecting our lives and our health. NJCVVC is comprised of local, state and national organizations and individuals including physicians, attorneys, holistic organizations, vaccine safety and autism support groups.