

Announcing California's 2026 Immunization Champion: Dr. Daniel R. Brennan

Recognizing Exceptional Leadership and Impact in Vaccine Advocacy



We are proud to announce Daniel R. Brennan, MD, FAAP, CLC as California's recipient of the Immunization Champion Award. Dr. Brennan has demonstrated extraordinary dedication to increasing immunization rates, fostering vaccine confidence, and protecting vulnerable populations throughout Santa Barbara County and beyond. His innovative efforts began after the tragic loss of an infant to pertussis in his community, inspiring him to found the "Strive for 95" Community Immunization Initiative—a coalition uniting local healthcare systems, public health agencies, and schools to improve vaccine uptake and prevent outbreaks.

Through evidence-based interventions, strategic public messaging, and broad outreach campaigns—including town hall symposiums, media advertising, and the launch of StriveFor95.org — Dr. Brennan has successfully increased local kindergarten vaccination rates from 92.1% to 96.5%, surpassing the critical community immunity threshold. He also strengthened parent-to-parent advocacy with creative "Strive for 95" vaccine stickers and empowered families during the COVID-19 pandemic through his "Masked and Mighty" campaign.

Dr. Brennan's leadership extends to Sutter Health, where he has guided multidisciplinary teams to achieve remarkable improvements in pediatric and adolescent immunization rates—29% and 53% increases, respectively, within a single year. His commitment to mentorship, community partnerships, and accessible education continues to inspire others and make a lasting impact on public health.

Dr. Brennan is celebrated not only for these measurable outcomes, but for his unwavering passion and collaborative spirit. His work stands as a model for coalition-building and positive engagement, ensuring California's communities remain healthy and protected. Congratulations, Dr. Daniel R. Brennan, on this well-deserved honor! To read Dr. Brennan's profile on the AIM website, and to learn more about AIM's Champion Award program, please visit [Champion Awards – Association of Immunization Managers](#).

The Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) is a nonprofit, tax-exempt membership association comprised of the directors of the 66 federally funded state, territorial, and local public health immunization programs.