



Central Michigan District Health Department

Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities



Steve Hall, RS, MS
Health Officer

Jennifer Morse, MD, MPH, FAAFP
Medical Director

PRESS RELEASE FOR LOCAL MEDIA

To: Local Media Outlets
From: Central Michigan District Health Department
RE: CMDHD Honors Pride Month
Release Date: May 23, 2024

CMDHD is Honoring Pride Month

Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) is proudly joining the global celebration of Pride Month in June. Pride is more than just a parade or a party; it's a time to recognize and honor the LGBTQ+ community, their history, struggles, and triumphs.

“Pride Month is a time for reflection, celebration, and advocacy. It's a reminder of the progress we've made in advancing LGBTQ+ rights, but it's also a call to action to continue fighting for equality and inclusion for all,” said Steve Hall, CMDHD Health Officer.

Pride Month traces its roots back to the Stonewall riots of June 1969, when LGBTQ+ individuals, particularly transgender people of color, stood up against police brutality and discrimination. This courageous uprising sparked a movement that has paved the way for greater acceptance, equality, and rights for LGBTQ+ people worldwide.

At CMDHD, we stand in solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community. We believe in creating a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for everyone, no matter their sexual orientation or gender identity. We recognize the importance of addressing the unique health needs of LGBTQ+ individuals and strive to provide culturally competent and affirming care to all members of our community. We offer educational sessions to advise the community -- including students, parents, and healthcare professionals – about inclusiveness. Our Community Health education request form can be found here: <https://forms.office.com/g/K2Jw9q1RHi>.

As we celebrate Pride Month, let's also take a moment to reflect on the challenges that LGBTQ+ individuals still face. Discrimination and lack of access to affirming healthcare services remain significant barriers to LGBTQ+ health and well-being. According to a recent study by the Human Rights Campaign, over 50% of LGBTQ+ youth experience bullying, anxiety, and depression due to their sexual orientation and/or gender identity. Read the 2023 LGBTQ+ Youth Report at <https://reports.hrc.org/2023-lgbtq-youth-report>.

Please visit us online at www.cmdhd.org.

Get involved locally by attending events by Great Lakes Bay Pride (<https://greatlakesbaypride.org/>) and Mt. Pleasant Pride Center (<https://www.mppridecenter.com/>), such as “Pop Up Pride in the Park” on Saturday, June 1 from 2-5pm at Broadway Park (2451 Nish Na Be Anong Rd.) in Mt Pleasant. In addition, the National LGBTQ Task Force is celebrating 50 years of freedom, justice, and equity for LGBTQ+ people. Visit www.thetaskforce.org to learn more about their mission and events.

Through education, advocacy, and support, we can work together to create a more inclusive and equitable society where everyone can live authentically and thrive. CMDHD is committed to being a trusted ally to the LGBTQ+ community, and we encourage everyone to join us in promoting acceptance this Pride Month and beyond.

This article has been brought to you by Central Michigan District Health Department, which serves the counties of Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola, and Roscommon. Visit our website at www.cmdhd.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

###

To request an interview, please visit our website (cmdhd.org) and fill out the [Media Interview Request Form](#).



Proud member of the [Northern Michigan Public Health Alliance](#): 7 local health departments advocating for public health.