



Central Michigan District Health Department

Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities



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PRESS RELEASE FOR LOCAL MEDIA

To: Local News Media

From: Shelby Pasch, Health Promotion Supervisor

RE: National LGBTQ Health Awareness Week (March 21st – 25th)

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National LGBTQ Awareness Week

This year is the 20th anniversary of National LGBTQ Awareness Week. “Live Out Loud” campaign encourages everyone to speak openly about LGBTQ health, providing an umbrella under which to discuss and raise awareness of mental health, trans health, and ending the stigma through accessible, affirming, and inclusive healthcare services so that everyone can fully live their truth.

Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) offers STD screening and pregnancy tests, as well as education, and will be offering FREE condoms throughout National LGBTQ Awareness Week, recognized March 21st through the 25th. Anonymous online safe sex supply ordering is also available on our website. Visit www.cmdhd.org and select “Health Promotion” under the services tab, then select “Online Condom Form.”

Michigan is home to an estimated 373,000 residents who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer as of 2019. The state recognizes the important work that must be done across intersections to create a more equitable state for all identities. Each day this week, we will feature messaging on our CMDHD Facebook page to raise awareness and decrease stigma by encouraging everyone to live loud, proud, and unapologetic. LGBTQ health is for the whole person by prioritizing our bodies to stop HIV. Wearing condoms and getting yourself tested regularly are ways to know your status and prevent your risk for HIV and STDs. Regular testing allows every person to take control of their sexual health along with talking to your partner by asking their status before engaging in sexual relations.

Please visit us at our website www.cmdhd.org

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 LIKE Central Michigan District Health Department on Facebook.

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Resources

CDC, Stop HIV: [Talk PrEP Together | HIV Prevention | Let's Stop HIV Together | CDC](#)

Michigan statistics: https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90639-560878--,00.html

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