



Central Michigan District Health Department

Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities



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PRESS RELEASE FOR LOCAL MEDIA

To: Area Newspapers

From: Shelby Pasch, CMDHD Health Promotion Supervisor

RE: Pride Month

Release Date: May 30, 2023

June is Pride Month

Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) would like to recognize Pride Month, which lasts the entire month of June. June is Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride month. Pride Month commemorates the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in New York and celebrates the LGBTQ community and the fight for equal rights. CMDHD offers services to anyone and is an advocate for inclusive healthcare for all. LGBTQ people continue to face significant barriers to accessing healthcare services, including discrimination they encounter from insurers and medical providers. CMDHD would like to help educate the community, students, parents, and healthcare professionals about inclusiveness. To learn more, you can submit an educational session request form by visiting the Health Department's website at <https://www.cmdhd.org/health-promotion->.

Today, Pride Month symbolizes an opportunity for visibility and community. It is a time for us to celebrate LGBTQ love and joy and a time to highlight important policy and resource issues the community faces. According to USA Today, there are more than 650 anti-LGBTQ bills introduced this year and 7.1% of US adults now identify as LGBTQ. To learn more about the National LGBTQ Task Force in celebrating years of freedom, justice, and equity for LGBTQ+ people, visit www.thetaskforce.org. To get involved locally, you can attend the Great Lakes Bay Pride event that will be held on Saturday, June 10th from 5:30pm to 9:00pm at Broadway Park, located at 2451 Nish Na Be Anong Rd in Mt. Pleasant. Show your support by visiting the CMDHD table!

CMDHD offers confidential sexual health services to anyone 13 years and older, without parental consent. Sexual minority youth (SMY) identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or questioning according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CDC's 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey data show substantial health disparities that exist among an estimated 2.6 million sexual minority students. This places them at risk for negative health outcomes, including HIV infection and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). CMDHD offers confidential

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STI and HIV testing and reproductive health services for free or on a sliding fee scale. Online ordering for a free HIV self-test kit and safe sex supplies are also available under the “health promotions” tab on the CMDHD website.

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](#).

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

Resources

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthyouth/disparities/health-disparities-among-lgbtq-youth.htm>

<https://www.thetaskforce.org/>

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2022/02/17/record-number-us-adults-identify-lgbtq/6802482001/>

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2023/02/19/national-lgbtq-task-force-battling-anti-lgbtq-bills/11280151002/>

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2022/06/02/pride-month-history-lgbtq-celebrations-june/9626504002/?gnt-cfr=1>

