



# Central Michigan District Health Department

Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities



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## PRESS RELEASE FOR LOCAL MEDIA

**To:** Local News Media

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**RE:** National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

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### October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

*CMDHD offers breast and cervical screenings to help detect cancer early.*

Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) is proudly supporting National Breast Cancer Awareness Month this October. Breast cancer can affect anyone, no matter their gender, background, or identity. This awareness month is a reminder of the importance of routine screening for breast cancer. Detecting cancer in its early stages is vital because it gives patients a better chance of successful treatment. CMDHD participates in the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Navigation Program (BC3NP), which offers free breast and cervical cancer screenings to those who are eligible.

“Early detection and treatment can make all the difference for someone diagnosed with cancer,” said Connie Lance, CMDHD Health Promotion supervisor. “Routine screening is the best way to detect cancer early, and CMDHD has programs, such as BC3NP, that can help with screening costs.”

According to the CDC, breast cancer is the second most common cancer in the United States among women. The CDC also reports that one in 100 breast cancers diagnosed in the United States is found in men. These statistics are limited, however, because they do not account for the cancers experienced by transgender or nonbinary people. Individuals in menopause or receiving other forms of hormone therapy face an increased risk, as well ([CDC](#), 2023). It is estimated that 0.6% of United States adults, or 1.4 million individuals, identify as transgender ([Flores, Herman, Gates, & Brown](#), 2016). While there is insufficient evidence to estimate breast cancer prevalence in the transgender population ([Joint et al.](#), 2018), it has been shown that the stage and kind of medical transition undergone by a transgender person can influence their risk of developing breast cancer.

**Please visit us online at [www.cmdhd.org](http://www.cmdhd.org).**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that individuals get screened for breast cancer annually from ages 50-74. People with risk factors or concerns should speak to their healthcare provider about beginning breast cancer screenings before age 50. A common breast cancer screening technique is the mammogram, which is a low-dose x-ray picture of the breast.

BC3NP is a federal program funded by the CDC and is administered by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). Those who are eligible for the BC3NP include cisgender women, transgender women and men, and nonbinary individuals who are uninsured or underinsured, at or below 250% of the federal poverty guidelines, ages 40 to 64 years for breast cancer and ages 21 to 64 years for cervical cancer services. Find out more information about BC3NP at <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/keep-mi-healthy/chronicdiseases/cancer/bc3np>. If an individual does not qualify through BC3NP, other assistance programs may be available.

Learn more about CMDHD's breast and cervical cancer screenings at <https://www.cmdhd.org/bc3np>. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact our Reproductive Health Clinic at (989) 314-7570.

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](http://www.cmdhd.org) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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

