



# Central Michigan District Health Department

Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities



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## PRESS RELEASE FOR LOCAL MEDIA

**To: Local Media Outlets**  
**From: Central Michigan District Health Department**  
**RE: CMDHD Hosting Children's Hygiene Essentials Drive**  
**Release Date: June 29, 2023**

### **CMDHD to Partner with Local Organizations for Children's Hygiene Essentials Drive**

*Donations will be collected and distributed to area schools by staff from CMDHD's REFRESH Program.*

Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) is working with community partners to collect donations for hygiene essentials for school-aged children. Staff from CMDHD's REFRESH Program will collect donations from boxes at local organizations through August 18, 2023. A current list of needed hygiene items and donation box locations can be found at <https://www.cmdhd.org/refresh-donations>.

REFRESH (*Rural Engagement Facilitating Resources & Education for School Hygiene*) was established prior to the 2022-2023 school year to supply products to support the basic hygiene needs of children throughout schools in our district. Five of CMDHD's six counties have more children living in poverty than Michigan's average, according to [County Health Rankings and Roadmaps](#).

When the REFRESH Program began, CMDHD's Health Resource Advocates (HRAs) sent out a survey to schools to find out how they could help. Responses showed there was a large need for hygiene products for the children. Donations were collected from individuals and organizations across the district and sorted into kits. These kits contained shampoo, body wash, toothbrush, toothpaste, lotion, and deodorant. Over 1,500 kits were given to the schools from the first round of donations. With the help of the community this summer, REFRESH can surpass this number.

CMDHD will accept the following items: deodorant (stick or aerosol in neutral scent), combs, brushes, hair picks, hair ties, bar soap, body wash, face wash, shampoo, conditioner, 2-in-1 cleansers, dry shampoo, lip balm, lotion, tissues, laundry soap, and wipes. CMDHD does not accept razors, used items, glass, mirrors, opened items, or leaking containers.

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

If you are looking for more information on how to donate or if your organization is interested in hosting a box, please contact Zach Schirmer at 989-430-7229 or email [zschirmer@cmdhd.org](mailto:zschirmer@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](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](#).*



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