Central Michigan District Health Department

Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities

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PRESS RELEASE FOR LOCAL MEDIA

To: Local Newspaper

From: Central Michigan Health Department - Health Promotion

RE: World AIDS Day – December 1st

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World AIDS Day #WAD2019

Central Michigan District Health Department supports World AIDS Day, Sunday, December 1, 2019. First observed in 1988, World AIDS day was initiated by health ministers from around the world who called for a spirit of social tolerance and a greater awareness of HIV/AIDS on an international scale.

In Michigan, the prevalence of HIV continues to increase because the number of new diagnoses is larger than the number of deaths. This is largely due to improved anti-retroviral medications. According to the 2019 Michigan Statewide HIV Surveillance Report, the reported prevalence of HIV was 16,306 and the prevalence of AIDS was 8,305.

What can you do? You can wear a red ribbon, which is an international symbol of AIDS awareness that can be worn by people all year and particularly around World AIDS Day to demonstrate care and concern about HIV and AIDS. Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) will be doing its part in recognizing World AIDS Day, #WAD2019, by distributing red ribbons in our six branch offices. If you would like a red ribbon to wear in support and/or become involved in your area to promote prevention and education, please stop by your local CMDHD branch office. You can also get tested yourself to know your own HIV status. Central Michigan District Health Department offers HIV testing by appointment. Call (989) 773-5921 ext. 1409 to make an appointment.

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, LIKE Central Michigan District Health Department on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @CMiDHD.

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

Source: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/Michigan_Statewide_HIV_Surveillance_ReportJuly_2019_660527_7.pdf