



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 Promoting National Breast Cancer Awareness Month
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CMDHD is Promoting October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) is promoting October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Breast cancer can affect anyone -- no matter their gender, background, or identity. Routine screening can detect cancer in its early stages, which offers 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.

Every year, breast cancer causes approximately 40,000 deaths in the United States. The [Michigan Department of Health and Human Services \(MDHHS\)](#) estimates that 9,410 Michigan residents will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 1,350 Michiganders will die from breast cancer this year alone.

“Early detection and treatment can make all the difference for someone diagnosed with cancer,” said Connie Lance, CMDHD Community Health Supervisor. “Routine screening is the best way to detect cancer early, and CMDHD’s programs, such as BC3NP, help those who are uninsured or underinsured receive this life-saving preventative care.”

According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), 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. Roughly 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

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stage and kind of medical transition undergone by a transgender person can influence their risk of developing breast cancer.

BC3NP is a federal program funded by the CDC and is administered by 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 at [MDHHS's BC3NP page](#). If an individual does not qualify through BC3NP, other assistance programs may be available.

The 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.

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 and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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