



# DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT NO. 2

Alcona County

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Iosco County

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Tawas City, MI 48764

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Ogemaw County

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Oscoda County

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Mio, MI 48647

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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### National HIV Testing Day is June 27, 2017

In honor of National HIV Testing Day, District Health Department No. 2 will offer **FREE** confidential, and/or anonymous HIV testing on June 27<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at our Ogemaw and Iosco County offices. **No appointment is necessary.**

Each year on June 27<sup>th</sup>, agencies and organizations unite to raise awareness about the importance of HIV testing and early diagnosis. Therefore, District Health Department No. 2 is encouraging HIV testing on National HIV Testing Day, and every day to ensure people know their status and get linked to necessary care.

#### Know the Facts:

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), around 1.2 million people in the U.S. are living with HIV; 1 in 8 don't know they're positive. The CDC estimates around 45,000 people will be newly diagnosed with HIV this year. More than 90% of these new infections could be prevented by testing, early diagnosis and treatment so people do not unknowingly spread the virus.

Getting tested is the only 100% sure way to know whether you need prevention (HIV negative) or care (HIV positive). According to the CDC:

- Prevention tools are more prevalent today than ever before.
- HIV medicines can keep people healthy for many years and greatly reduce the chance of passing HIV to others.

“As an agency, we encourage everyone from 13 to 63 years of age to be tested at least once in their lifetime. Additionally, those who engage in risky behaviors should be tested on a regular basis.” states Denise Bryan, Health Officer with District Health Department No. 2.

**FREE** testing is also offered by appointment. For more information or to schedule an appointment contact District Health Department No. 2 at 1-800-504-2650. To find alternate HIV testing locations near you, text your ZIP code to KNOWIT (566948) or use the following online locator (<http://locator.aids.gov>).

**"Test Your Way. Do It Today".**