



PRESS RELEASE FOR LOCAL MEDIA

Central Michigan District Health Department
“Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities”

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To: Local Newspapers

From: Central Michigan District Health Department

RE: Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP)

Release Date: November 2016

Central Michigan District Health Department offers the Maternal and Infant Health Program (MIHP) for women who are currently pregnant and for infants up to 1 year of age who are enrolled in or are eligible for Medicaid insurance coverage. Visits are offered by experienced and caring Registered Nurses, Social Workers and Registered Dietitians in the office, in the family's home or other site most beneficial for the clients.

The staff in the MIHP program provides parenting and childbirth education as well as health, nutrition and infant and maternal bonding information. The goal of MIHP is to educate and assist families to get to know all of the resources available to them in their communities and help them access these services when needed. MIHP visits can be combined with WIC visits for convenience. It has been shown by recent research that participation in MIHP does the following:

- Pregnant women receive prenatal care earlier and more often.
- Infants receive well child care earlier and more often.
- There is a positive relationship between being on MIHP and having a healthy baby.

MIHP offers referrals and payment for Childbirth Education classes and Parenting classes. Staff can assist clients in accessing transportation help through their Medicaid Health Plans as well as providing some transportation assistance not covered by their Health Plan. Clients who participate in MIHP value having someone to support them outside of their medical visits for care. One MIHP client quotes: *“The home visiting staff is awesome to have in my home! Every visit I learned something new.”*

Please contact your local Central Michigan District Health Department branch office for more information or go to the website www.michigan.gov/mihp.

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

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