PRESS RELEASE FOR LOCAL MEDIA  
Central Michigan District Health Department  
“Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities”  
For more information, please call: (989) 773-5921 ext. 113  

To:  Local News Media  
From:  Michelle Patton, Environmental Health Division Director  
RE:  NEW Food Safety Education Grant  
Release Date:  June 13, 2008

NEW Food Safety Educational Opportunities Offered  
Through Central Michigan District Health Department

Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) is offering two opportunities for local communities to learn more about food safety. The opportunities are being offered as a result of CMDHD being awarded a $12,000 education grant through the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

Beginning this month, a Safe Food Worker class will be taught in each of the six counties. The Safe Food Worker class is a service for new food workers, current food workers of restaurants, convenience stores, delis and other food preparation facilities, or those who are planning on becoming employed in these types of facilities. The course will offer the basics of food safety (clean, cook, chill, separate). In addition, volunteers of local soup kitchens and churches are encouraged to participate. The Safe Food Worker class differs from the SERV-SAFE class already offered by the health department for owners and managers of food facilities. The cost of the class is $10.00 for the first 300 registrants.

In addition, CMDHD is now offering free community presentations to groups interested in learning more about food safety in general. Presentations are generally 1 to 1 ½ hours in length. This option is great for K-12 schools, universities, senior centers, community organizations, etc.

For more information on these new programs, to register for the class, or schedule a presentation, please contact your local CMDHD department branch office. Information is also available on our website at www.cmdhd.org.

Central Michigan District Health Department serves the local residents of Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola and Roscommon counties.

###