



WORLD AIDS DAY

Low-cost In-person Testing Available and Free At-home HIV Testing Kits Available

December 1, 2023 – December 1st marks the 31st anniversary of World AIDS Day. District Health Department #10 (DHD#10) joins others across the globe to show support for those living with HIV and to remember those who have died from the infection.

Although antiretroviral therapy has transformed HIV from a nearly always fatal infection into a manageable chronic condition, HIV remains a global health threat. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in 2017, worldwide approximately 36.9 million people were living with HIV, an estimated 940,000 people died from AIDS-related illnesses, and about 1.8 million people were newly infected with HIV.

About 1 in 7 people in the United States who have HIV do not know they have it, which is why testing is important. CDC recommends that everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 get tested for HIV at least once as part of routine health care.

“Unfortunately, when most people think of HIV, they do not think they can get it,” said DHD#10 Community Health Coordinator, Qur’an Griffin. “New HIV diagnoses have increased 2.5 times in our region over the last three years. It’s important to remember that anyone can get HIV, including individuals who have had sex with an HIV-positive partner, shared needles, had more than one sex partner since their last HIV test, exchanged sex for drugs or money, or been diagnosed with a sexually transmitted disease.”

“CDC recommends that everyone get tested as part of their routine health care, and testing at DHD#10 is available year-round,” said Qur’an Griffin, DHD#10 Community Health Coordinator. “Services are confidential, LGBTQ friendly, and no one will ever be denied service due to inability to pay.”

Residents can call DHD#10 at 888-217-3904 to schedule a low-cost, in person rapid HIV test. Residents can also order a free, at-home HIV test to be delivered to them by visiting <https://www.dhd10.org/hivtest/>. After residents complete their order, an OraQuick at-home rapid HIV test, test instructions, resources, and condoms (if chosen) will be mailed to them in discreet packaging. The test needs only an oral swab to give you your results in 20 minutes. Following taking the test, DHD#10 asks that residents report their results here (<https://www.dhd10.org/hivtest/hiv-test-results-report-form/>), a DHD#10 staff will also reach out within 10 days of the package arriving to discuss your results, PrEP, and other resources.



MEDIA CONTACT

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COUNTIES SERVED:

Crawford
Kalkaska
Lake
Manistee
Mason
Mecosta
Missaukee
Newaygo
Oceana
Wexford



www.dhd10.org



www.facebook.com/DHD10



[districthealthdept10](https://www.instagram.com/districthealthdept10)

Residents can order their free HIV Home Test Kit here:

<https://www.dhd10.org/hivtest/>. You can also call 888-217-3904, option #2, to make an appointment at your local DHD#10 office. Walk-ins welcome.

For more information, please visit DHD#10's Sexual Health Website for more information: <https://www.dhd10.org/sexualhealth/>.

For more information about World Aids Day, visit: <https://worldaidsday.org/>.

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