



**District Health
Department #10**
Healthy People, Healthy Communities



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COUNTIES SERVED:

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the **Northern
Michigan Public
Health Alliance**: 7
local health
departments
advocating for
public health.

OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Take Time to Educate, Participate, and Encourage Yourself and Others

October 05, 2023 – Each year, October brings breast cancer front and center. Breast Cancer Awareness Month provides opportunities to promote screenings and the warning signs of this life-threatening disease. In addition, District Health Department #10 (DHD#10) and the Northern Michigan Public Health Alliance recognize Oct. 13 as Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day and Oct. 17-23 as Men's Breast Cancer Awareness Week.

So, get out your pink, show your support by attending local events, and schedule those screenings.

Did you know that:

- One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. According to the Susan G. Komen organization, one woman is diagnosed every two minutes in the U.S.
- The two most common risk factors of breast cancer are being born a female and getting older.
- In 2022, an estimated 44,000 people in America died from breast cancer.

DHD#10 helps women—and men—be proactive in fighting breast cancer through education, awareness, and screenings.

“Our Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Navigation Program (BC3NP) provides low-income women access to mammograms and pap tests, both of which are critical screenings,” says Joni Sholtey, DHD#10 Health Promotion Supervisor. “If a woman is diagnosed, we will also work to help them qualify for a special Medicaid program through BC3NP to help with the costs of treatment.”

The program covers pap smears for women 21 to 64, mammograms for women 40-64, and MRIs based on personal and family risk. Over 75 services are provided through BC3NP, including:

- Diagnostic mammograms
- Ultrasounds
- Breast biopsies

To see if you qualify for BC3NP or a type of insurance that can help cover screenings, call DHD#10 at 888-217-3904. To learn more about the symptoms of breast cancer, go to https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/basic_info/symptoms.htm.

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