



**SAGINAW COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**
protecting and promoting the public's health since 1928

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 11/30/2017

CONTACT: Tawnya Simon, R.N., B.S.N., M.S.A.
TITLE: Personal and Preventive Health Services Director
PHONE: (989) 758-3667
EMAIL: tsimon@saginawcounty.com

**SAGINAW COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH RECOGNIZES
WORLD AIDS DAY**

December 1, 2017 is World AIDS Day and serves as an opportunity to raise public awareness and improve education about HIV and AIDS. In the United States, there are 1.1 million people living with HIV and 1 in 7 of them don't know it. The estimated prevalence of HIV in the State of Michigan is 17,970. In Saginaw County, that number is 290 residents.

The only way to know for sure whether or not you have HIV is to get tested. You could have HIV and still feel healthy. Everyone ages 15 to 65 needs to get tested at least once. Some people may need to be tested more often. HIV is passed from one person to another by:

- Having unprotected sex with a person who has HIV
- Sharing needles with someone who has HIV
- Breastfeeding, pregnancy, or childbirth if the mother has HIV
- Getting a transfusion of blood that's infected with HIV (very rare in the United States)

The Saginaw County Department of Public Health encourages Saginaw County residents to get tested and offers confidential and anonymous HIV testing. Call for an appointment today at (989) 758-3880 or visit our website at www.saginawpublichealth.org. Be Wise. Be Well.

END