



Barry-Eaton District Health Department

Be Active • Be Safe • Be Healthy

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

MAY 2017

YOU'RE INVITED!

Monthly Coalition Schedule

- B. Healthy Coalition, May 8th, 8:00–9:00 am, BEDHD, Hastings
- Eaton Rapids Health Alliance, May 23rd, 3:30–5:00 pm, Basement Conference Room, Eaton Rapids Medical Center, Eaton Rapids
- Barry County Tobacco Reduction Coalition, May 18th, 12:30–1:30 pm, BEDHD, Hastings
- Grand Ledge Building Healthy Communities Coalition, May 24th, 12:00–1:00pm, Grand Ledge City Hall
- Eaton County Oral Health Coalition, May 4th, 1:00–2:00 pm, BEDHD, Charlotte

LAST CHANCE FOR 15–29 YEAR OLDS TO WIN \$500 SCHOLARSHIP

Last year, BEDHD held a “Sun Safe” contest for 15–29 year olds to develop a public service announcement (PSA) video promoting sun safety. The winner of this contest had her ad featured in a local movie theater. This year, BEDHD is hosting a similar contest, but instead of creating a video, we are asking 15–29 year old Barry and Eaton County residents to design a billboard advertisement promoting sun safe behavior. The winners (one in each county) will have their design featured on a local billboard and will each receive a \$500 scholarship. For more information, contact Lauren Cibor at lcibor@bedhd.org or (517) 541-2624.

The submission deadline is May 5 before 1:00 pm.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESOURCES FOR MEDICAL MARIHUANA

Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) has developed a resource website (<http://msue.msu.edu/mmfla>) for municipalities regarding the Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act. The website includes materials from MSUE’s program “Regulating Medical Marijuana Facilities: A Workshop for Local Government,” which was held throughout Michigan in February and March

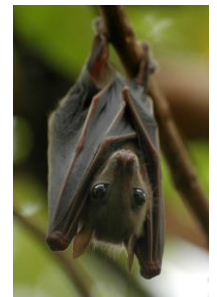
2017, plus additional resources. A recording of the webinar version of the above workshop will also be available on this website for \$20.

Eaton Behavioral Health

Eaton Behavioral Health (EBH) is a licensed and accredited outpatient substance use and behavioral health disorder treatment provider. The mission of EBH is to empower individuals, families, and the community with affordable, accessible, and effective treatment for addictions and other behavioral health concerns. EBH provides treatment that addresses patients’ mental, emotional, physical, spiritual, and social needs. Services include Peer Support Services, which pairs patients with a Peer Lifestyle Coach to help them become motivated and skilled at addiction recovery; Choices, an early intervention program for adolescents experimenting with substance use and their parents; and Women’s Specialty Services, an outpatient treatment program that provides special support and resources (such as childcare and transportation for appointments) to women who have dependent children. EBH accepts most major insurance plans, including Medicaid, Medicare, and the Healthy Michigan Plan.

BAT SEASON IS HERE

Bats are starting to come out of hibernation, and while they are valuable to our environment, bats can also carry rabies. Bats have very small teeth, and a bite from one may not be felt. Any direct contact with a bat means a possible exposure to rabies. If you think you may have been exposed to a bat, capture the bat. **DO NOT LET THE BAT GO.** If you find a bat in the same room as a person who may not know if contact has occurred, such as a sleeping person, a child, or someone who is mentally disabled or intoxicated, you should also capture the bat. For information on how to safely capture a bat in your home and when you should contact BEDHD, read “FAQs about Bats and Rabies” at <http://bit.ly/2pxit8n> and view a video on how to capture bats at <http://bit.ly/2o9j2F1>.





Contact Us

For more information on items in this newsletter, contact Abigail Lynch, Community Health Promotion Specialist, at (517) 541-2644 or alynch@bedhd.org.

PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST TICK- AND MOSQUITO-BORNE ILLNESS

With the outdoor activities that come with spring weather also come ticks and mosquitoes. While many tick and mosquito bites are just irritations, sometimes those bites can be more serious. Residents should know how to protect themselves from illnesses spread by infected ticks (especially Lyme disease) and mosquitoes (especially West Nile virus). For more information on these diseases and how to protect yourself from ticks and mosquitoes, as well as how to submit ticks for Lyme disease testing, visit <http://bit.ly/1JgfHf9>.

MEDICAID-INSURED PERSONS QUALIFY FOR MANY BEDHD SERVICES

The health department offers many services that Medicaid insurance covers. These services include vaccinations for children, vaccinations for adults (except influenza), substance abuse and addiction recovery counseling and programs, referrals to breast and cervical cancer screening programs, sexually-transmitted disease testing, and dental services through MCDC (My Community Dental Centers). Call us at (517) 543-2430 (Eaton County) OR (269) 945-9516 (Barry County) for more information.

DO 1 THING: MONTHLY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITY

Work, School, and Community. Disasters can happen at any time, in any place. While many people are prepared for emergencies at home, it's also important to think about what you would do if an emergency occurred when you and your family were at work or school or in the community. Talk with your employers or school administrators about their plans for emergencies. If you are a workplace, community center, business, or school, be sure to keep persons with disabilities in mind when making your emergency plan, and consider asking the local police or fire department to review your plan. For more information about preparing for an emergency, visit <http://do1thing.com>.

QUESTIONS ABOUT IMMUNIZATIONS?

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has partnered with the Franny Strong Foundation to launch the *I Vaccinate* public health education campaign to encourage parents to protect their children from vaccine-preventable diseases. Designed with input from Michigan mothers, *I Vaccinate* provides the facts parents need to make informed decisions about vaccinations. The campaign's website includes user-friendly, science-based information for all parents. You can encourage parents to visit this new resource at <https://ivaccinate.org>.

COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLANS

As part of ongoing efforts in both Barry and Eaton counties to improve the health of our communities, BEDHD, local hospital partners, and other community organizations have partnered to develop a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) for each county. Each plan showcases how the community is working together to address the top five health priorities in each county, as follows:

- Barry County: Chronic disease, mental health, obesity, smoking and tobacco use, opportunities for physical activity
- Eaton County: Access to primary care providers, mental health, financial stability, access to quality health care, chronic disease

We encourage you to check out the plans online at <http://bit.ly/2ggRhuW>. Once you've had a chance to read the plan for your county, tell us what you think by taking our feedback survey!

- Barry County: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BarryCHIP>
- Eaton County: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EatonCHIP>

