



- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

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Choices – New clinical services available for ALL through Calhoun County Public Health Department

New services are now available at Calhoun County Public Health Department (CCPHD) for the reproductive health of all county residents. The new program, titled Choices, offers a wide range of services to assist men and women who wish to start a family or prevent a pregnancy, and to avoid the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

Men and reproductive/ sexual health

In observance of June as Men's Health Month, CCPHD is pleased to shine focus on including men in the conversation about their sexual and reproductive health, as well as the health of their partners. In past program models for sexual and reproductive health services, the services focused on women to set family planning goals. This approach is obviously off-balance. Intimate partnerships can be made up of men and women. It is important to recognize that men may be people who use birth control methods, and are people who also need sexual health care services, including assistance learning about healthy partner relationships and assistance planning for the right time to have children.

What services are available through Choices?

All clients, male or female, wishing to take a more active role in their sexual and reproductive health are welcomed to visit CCPHD at either the Battle Creek or Albion clinic during normal office hours.

Clinics offer a number of services, and will happily provide referrals and connections to Medicaid and doctors' offices where needed. Below is a list of services provided:

- Information on birth control and sexual health
- Help choosing the birth control method that works best with individual needs
- Counseling for planning a healthy pregnancy when the time is right for the client
- Pregnancy testing and counseling
- Testing and treatment for STIs
- Exams and screenings for cancer or other health issues

Clients identified as pregnant will be provided information on pregnancy resources and centers, such as Oaklawn Medical Group, Grace Health, and Planned Parenthood of South Central Michigan Kalamazoo and CCPHD WIC and Nurse-Family Partnership programs as qualified. CCPHD is tasked with equally presenting all options for pregnancy without bias.

The goal of Choices is simply to provide more care to those in Calhoun County who do not have a regular doctor, do not have insurance, or are under-insured. Access to Choices' services will aim to address many concerns for Calhoun County's overall health. CCPHD hopes to decrease instances of STIs, infant deaths, and teenage pregnancies. Choices services will also strive to increase planned pregnancies, pre-conception and prenatal care throughout client pregnancies so babies born in Calhoun County have the best set up for success. Services received are charged based on the client's ability to pay. Medicaid or private insurance can also be billed.

Clinic Hours

- CCPHD Battle Creek Clinic: 269-969-6363
Monday – Friday 8AM-4:30PM.
Client check in 8AM-3:45PM (open through lunch)

- CCPHD Albion Clinic: 517-629-9434

Monday – Friday 8AM-12:30 & 1PM - 4:30PM

Client check in 8AM-11:45AM & 1PM- 3:45PM

For a full list of services, or more information on Choices, please visit us online at

www.calhouncountymi.gov/publichealth or on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/calhouncountypublichealthdepartmentSTDclinic

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