



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

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**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, 2016 is World AIDS Day and serves as an opportunity to raise public awareness, fight prejudice, and improve education about HIV and AIDS. Around the world, about 37 million people are living with HIV. In Saginaw County, that number is approximately 245 residents. In the United States, about 44,000 people get infected with HIV every year. Also in the United States, about 1 in 8 people who has HIV doesn't know it.

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](http://www.saginawpublichealth.org). Be Wise. Be Well.

**## END ##**