



FOR RELEASE:
October 24, 2014
CONTACT:
Dan Reynolds
(231) 547-7629
d.reynolds@nwhealth.org



www.nwhealth.org

Health Department and Antrim County High Tea: “EVERY woman, EVERY year”

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, but breast cancer kills women every day of the year. And every day, thousands of women – whether or not they’re employed – must make a choice between paying the bills or taking care of their own health. The Health Department of Northwest Michigan and its partner, Antrim County High Tea for Breast Cancer Prevention, want to remove all obstacles women face in seeking the care that might help them detect and prevent breast cancer.

“We even provide gasoline cards to help pay for their gas in getting to and from the appointment,” said Joy Klooster, who coordinates several women’s health programs for the Health Department. “We encourage husbands, boyfriends, kids, parents, bosses and best friends to help make it a priority for EVERY woman in their lives, EVERY year.”

Klooster said the Health Department’s Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) targets women age 40-64 who have no insurance, or who have high insurance deductibles for diagnostic procedures like ultrasounds and breast tissue biopsies. “We also have ways to help women ages 25 to 39 who have abnormal breast findings and need mammograms,” she explained. “We provide follow-up for abnormal findings, and if a cancer is found, we can help them through the Medicaid Treatment Act.”

Every woman who is 40 or older should seek a mammogram, every year. If you find a lump and don’t know where to turn, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan will guide you to the right screening program. To learn more about the Health Department’s Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program, and its partnership with Antrim County High Tea, visit www.nwhealth.org or www.antrimcountyhightea.org.

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is mandated by the Michigan Public Health Code to promote wellness, prevent disease, provide quality healthcare, address health problems of vulnerable populations, and protect the environment for the residents and visitors of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Otsego Counties. Call **(800) 432-4121** for more information or to schedule a mammogram.

###