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Health Department to host free film screening event about HPV

PETOSKEY, MI - The Health Department of Northwest Michigan (HDNW) invites the community to attend a free film screening and panel discussion of "Someone You Love: The HPV Epidemic." The first film screening will be held at Gaylord's Jay's Sporting Goods Conference Room on Wednesday, May 9th at 5pm. The second screening will be at the Petoskey District Library Classroom on Wednesday, May 16th at 4:30pm. All are welcome; refreshments will be served.

The film follows five women on their journeys in battling cervical cancer caused by Human Papillomavirus (HPV). Through the film and discussion with a panel of experts, community members will learn about causes and consequences of HPV infection. As parents, you do everything you can to protect your children's health. This event introduces a strong weapon to prevent several types of cancer in our kids: the HPV vaccine.

"We hope to increase awareness and help eliminate these vaccine-preventable diseases and cancers for future generations," said Dr. Natalie Kasiborski, Director of Community Health Services at the health department. "The health department is grateful to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services for the opportunity to host a community discussion about HPV-related cancers and the HPV vaccine series."

The panelists will share a wealth of knowledge to answer all your questions about the HPV vaccine series. The Gaylord panelists include Dr. Joshua Meyerson (Medical Director at the HDNW), Yvonne Louise (Family & Community Health Nurse at HDNW), and Carrie Miller (Nurse Practitioner at HDNW). The Petoskey panelists include Dr. Joshua Meyerson (Medical Director at the HDNW), Yvonne Louise (Family & Community Health Nurse at HDNW), Carrie Miller (Nurse Practitioner at HDNW), Dr. Jane Stieber (Pediatric Dentist & Owner of Petoskey Pediatric Dentistry), and Dr. Laura Most (Pediatrician at Petoskey Pediatrics).

For more information on the film screenings, please contact Kirstyn Horan at the health department at k.horan@nwhealth.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.

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