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**Media Contact:** Leslie Kinnee

989-831-3669, [lkinnie@mmdhd.org](mailto:lkinnie@mmdhd.org)

Mid-Michigan District Health Department

615 N. State Street, Stanton, MI 48888-9702, [www.mmdhd.org](http://www.mmdhd.org)

## Healthy Montcalm Identifies Community Health Priorities

Stanton- Access to healthcare. Obesity. Substance Abuse. These are just a few of the health concerns identified in a county-wide survey conducted by Healthy Montcalm, an initiative dedicated to improving the health of Montcalm County residents. The survey results are currently being reviewed by Healthy Montcalm's advisory committee, a group of over 40 county organizations, focused on determining health priorities – those specific areas of need that can be addressed through a plan of action. Members of the Healthy Montcalm Initiative will continue to gather input at area agency and community group meetings in November and December. The advisory group is scheduled to meet again on January 20 to further identify potential solutions on the identified priority health issues.

To help promote the activities of Healthy Montcalm, a county-wide logo contest was recently held to help engage county residents. The winner, selected from 116 entries, is Morgan Smith, a freshman at Central Montcalm High School. Morgan's winning concept, which incorporated the theme "Building a Healthier Tomorrow," will be utilized on Healthy Montcalm displays, correspondence and reports. For her efforts, Morgan has been awarded a \$100 Visa gift card.

For more information about Healthy Montcalm, and how you can become involved, contact Ross Pope (989) 831-3601 or Cheryl Thelen (989) 831-3634, or visit the Mid-Michigan District Health Department's website at [www.mmdhd.org](http://www.mmdhd.org).

*Mid-Michigan District Health Department serves the residents of Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm Counties.*

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