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## Pathways to Better Health receives United Way grant



Left to right: Community Health Worker Erin Morgan,  
United Way Montcalm-Ionia Counties Director Terri Legg  
and Health Educator Cheryl Thelen

Stanton- The Mid-Michigan District Health Department was recently awarded a Community Impact Grant from United Way of Montcalm and Ionia Counties to help improve health outcomes for area residents.

The \$2,375 grant will be used to provide gas cards to clients who are being served by the Pathways to Better Health Program in Montcalm County.

Pathways to Better Health is an evidence-based program, in which a community health worker assists at-risk clients in navigating medical and social service systems. These clients, faced with chronic medical conditions and other obstacles, often lack the funds for long distance trips to receive needed medical care or social services supports. While some lack gas money for their own vehicles, others

depend on family and friends for transportation. Gas cards, now available thanks to the United Way grant, will help lessen the transportation barrier that keeps many from seeking much needed care.

Improving the quality of life and guiding clients to advocate for themselves are goals of the Pathways to Better Health Program. Erin Morgan, Community Health Worker for Montcalm County states: "Being a rural community, many of our clients have to travel long distances to receive medical care, so this will be a big help."

For more information on the Pathways to Better Health Program, contact Erin Morgan, Community Health Worker for Montcalm County, at (989)831-3618. Applications for assistance can be found on 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.  
We take action to protect, maintain and improve the health of our community.  
Advancing innovative solutions to achieve healthier outcomes*

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