



# Dickinson-Iron District Health Department

## Dickinson County

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### IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Dickinson-Iron District Health Department Offers Free Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Exams

Kingsford, Michigan – July 19, 2011. The Dickinson-Iron District Health Department offers low-income women access to life-saving cancer screening services and follow-up care, including cancer treatment if need through the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) implemented by Michigan Department of Community Health through a multi-year grant from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

### Eligibility Requirements

- Have an **income**  $\leq$  **250%** of federal poverty level (for example a woman in a family of four with a gross of income \$55,875)
- Be **uninsured** (NOTE: Women who are underinsured MAY also be eligible for the BCCCP)
- Be **age 40 - 64**

***Note:** Women who are enrolled in a managed care program, a health maintenance organization, or Medicare Part B are not eligible for the BCCCP.*

### Screening Services

Women aged 40-64 can receive screening services such as:

- Clinical breast exams
- Pap smears
- Pelvic exams
- Screening mammograms

**-More-**

## **Diagnostic Services**

If a breast and/or cervical abnormality is identified from the screening test/exam, the woman will be referred to community providers for follow-up. Over 75 diagnostic services are provided free of cost through the BCCCP. Some of these include:

- Diagnostic mammograms
- Ultrasounds
- Breast Biopsy
- Colposcopy services
- Colposcopy-directed biopsy services
- Medical Consultations
- Selected anesthesia services

## **Cancer Treatment**

In the event of a diagnosis of breast or cervical cancer through the BCCCP, a woman may be eligible for Medicaid coverage. If eligible, Medicaid will pay for all of her medical expenses for as long as she is being treated for the cancer. Once treatment is no longer needed, the woman is then potentially eligible (once again, based upon age and income) for continued annual screening services through the BCCCP.

A woman remains eligible for Medicaid coverage until:

- Her health professional deems she is free from cancer and will not require continued cancer therapy **or**
- She no longer meets the eligibility criteria for this program (e.g., has obtained creditable insurance coverage, has reached the age of 65 and has Medicare Part B, or has an income that exceeds 250 percent of the federal poverty level).

***Note: Federal law limits Medicaid coverage to citizens and legal aliens.***

## **Schedule an Appointment**

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call the Dickinson-Iron District Health Department at (906) 779-7237 or (906) 265-4166.

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