



Dickinson-Iron District Health Department

Dickinson County

818 Pyle Drive, Kingsford, MI 49802
Ph: (906) 774-1868 Fax: (906) 774-9910
BRANCH OFFICE

www.didhd.org

Iron County

601 Washington Avenue, Iron River, MI 49935
Ph: (906) 265-9913 Fax: (906) 265-2950
MAIN OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Information:

Kelly Rumpf, 779-7234



Dickinson-Iron District Health Department Kicks Off March Parenting Awareness Month

Kingsford and Iron River, Michigan, March 7, 2011 - Parenting Awareness Month is a Michigan initiative to promote awareness, education, and resources – through state outreach and local efforts – emphasizing the importance of effective parenting in nurturing children to become healthy, caring, and contributing citizens. Parenting Awareness Month is unique to Michigan and has been celebrated since 1993.

Parenting Awareness Michigan provides guidance, materials, resources, and technical assistance throughout the year. In celebration of Parenting Awareness Month, the initiative promotes locally planned parenting events in March, and education and resources for developing parenting skills year around. Please plan to attend our local parenting fairs scheduled for March 18 in Iron County and March 26 in Dickinson County.

Parenting Awareness Michigan celebrates people who are parenting our children, and seeks to:

- Draw public attention to the critical importance of effective parenting across the lifespan.
- Raise awareness that effective parenting is a key factor in alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention.
- Promote education and resources for developing parenting skills.
- Raise awareness that everyone benefits from parent education and support.
- Encourage and assist in the development of parent networks.
- Celebrate the month of March as Parenting Awareness Month, and promote locally planned events in March and throughout the year focused on parenting.

Good parenting includes . . .

1. Showing children love, concern, and respect at all times.
2. Giving children a safe place to live and play.
3. Helping children express all their feelings appropriately and listening to what they say.
4. Giving children appropriate choices whenever possible.
5. Having reasonable rules that are understood by all.
6. Being responsible and teaching children to be responsible.
7. Spending time with children.
8. Setting an example by what we say and do.
9. Working with our schools and communities to make them better for children.
10. Asking for help when we need it.

Parenting Awareness Month posters, matching bookmarks, and a packet of reproducible parenting materials are developed each year to involve communities in the initiative. Information, materials, and a listing of local PAM activities are provided through Prevention Network (800-968-4968) and by visiting Parenting Awareness Michigan at www.preventionnetwork.org.

The Dickinson-Iron District Health Department is committed to promoting wellness, preventing disease, providing health care, and protecting the environment. For more information please call the health department at (907) 774-1868 or (906) 265-9913.

###