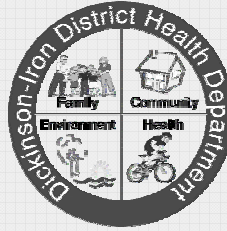


Vision Screening



Dickinson-Iron District Health Department

"Serving the community since 1936 in Health Protection, Health Education and Disease Prevention"

FACTS:

- The rate at which visual impairments occur in individuals under the age of 18 is 12.2 per 1,000. Severe visual impairments (legally or totally blind) occur at a rate of 0.06 per 1,000.
- There are approximately three million children residing in the state of Michigan. Over one million of these children will need eye care by the time they reach high school graduation age. Some 10,000 of these children are entering school each year with inadequate vision.
- Children usually do not know that they see differently. Early identification of an eye problem is important. Conditions like amblyopia, or lazy eye, can be prevented if detected and treated during pre-school years.

Back to School Month

SERVICES AVAILABLE:

Vision and hearing screening is available through the Health Department Free of Charge for infants – school age children.

As with immunizations, Hearing and Vision screening is required before entering kindergarten. The Dickinson-Iron District Health Department provides vision and hearing screening for all children of this age at School Organized Kindergarten roundups as well as at monthly Clinics at the Health Department.

Please call or visit one of our two locations:

818 Pyle Drive
Kingsford, MI 49802
(906) 774-1868

601 Washington Ave.
Iron River, MI 49935
(906) 265-9913

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW (From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention):

Vision Loss

Vision loss means that a person's eyesight cannot be corrected to a "normal" level, making it hard or impossible to do daily tasks without eyeglasses, contact lenses, or other assistance. Vision loss can vary greatly among children and can be caused by many things. Vision loss can be caused by damage to the eye itself, by the eye being shaped incorrectly, or even by a problem in the brain. Babies can be born unable to see, and vision loss can occur anytime during a person's life.

When should my child be checked?

Your child should be checked for vision problems by an eye doctor (an ophthalmologist), pediatrician, or other trained specialist at:

- Newborn to 3 months
- Six months to 1 year
- About 3 years
- About 5 years

Having your child's vision checked is especially important if someone in your family has had vision problems.

RESOURCES:

Michigan Department of Community Health

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program

http://michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2942_4911_21429-55522--_00.html

Michigan Department of Community Health

Vision screening

http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2942_4911_4912-12634--_00.html

National Eye Institute.

Eye health organizations list

<http://www.nei.nih.gov/health/resourceAlpha.asp>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Learn the Signs. Act Early. Vision Loss Fact Sheet

http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/actearly/vision_loss.htm1

