

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: December 26, 2018

END DATE: January 5, 2019

CONTACT: Kate Stevens, BS
Health Educator

PHONE: (810) 257-3194

RE: **Wear One Condom Campaign**

The Wear One condom campaign recently celebrated one year of providing free condoms to Genesee County. The Genesee County Health Department (GCHD) introduced the Wear One condom campaign on December 1, 2017, to assist in decreasing high STD rates in the county. Since its launch, GCHD has distributed over 78,000 condoms, 26,000 lubricants, and 34,000 pieces of educational information to the public. Over 17 participating businesses and organizations are assisting by distributing the Wear One packages to their patrons.

This campaign was first introduced by Ottawa County Department of Public Health in 2014 and has quickly spread to other counties. Wear One was developed to increase condom availability, create awareness, and promote acceptance of condom use by individuals. The goal is to decrease STDs and unplanned pregnancies by removing barriers such as cost, embarrassment, and lack of access. Abstinence is the best way to protect yourself against STDs; however, when sexually active, correctly using condoms is the best way to prevent STDs. The campaign focuses on providing discreet packages containing condoms, lubricant, and educational materials that will be accessible in bars, salons and barber shops, tattoo parlors, and many other locations throughout Genesee County.

To see the full list of participating partners, visit <https://gchd.us/get-help/hiv-std-testing>. If you are a local business in Genesee County that would like to participate or have questions, please contact Kate Stevens at 810-257-3194.

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Floyd J. McCree Courts & Human Services Center ♦ 630 S. Saginaw Street, Ste. 4 ♦ Flint, Michigan 48502-1540

Burton Branch ♦ G-3373 S. Saginaw Street ♦ Burton, Michigan 48529

Main Phone 810-257-3612 ♦ Visit us at: www.gchd.us

