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PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Health screenings to be offered at Project Homeless Connect

Southwest, Michigan, Aug. 6, 2008 - The Housing Resource Network (HRN) of Berrien County, Hospice at Home and InterCare Community Health Network of Benton Harbor will be hosting its National Homeless Day Project Homeless Connect (PHC) on Wednesday, Aug. 13. PHC is a “one-stop shop” for families to access services. The event will be held at The Mercy Center in Benton Harbor from 10am-3pm.

Berrien County is a leader in the State of Michigan with PHC and Michigan is viewed as a leader in the nation. Michigan is the only state that hosts rural events and the leader with more than 36 counties hosting events. Please check out the website devoted to Michigan’s 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness:

<http://thecampaigntoendhomelessness.org/index.php>

In a first time collaboration Hospice at Home and InterCare are partnering with HRN to bring additional services to the one day event as a way to assist the homeless. Hospice at Home staff will provide screenings for blood pressure, blood glucose and lice, as well as chair massages.

InterCare will provide staff for the glucose readings and scheduling for those with immediate concerns regarding blood pressure and blood glucose levels.

Participating Agencies: Social Security, Salvation Army, Riverwood, Strive, Residential Services of Southwest Michigan (RSSM) Emergency Shelter, Safe Shelter, Dept. of Human Services (DHS), Tri-County Head Start, ISD/McKinney-Vento, Child Care Resources, Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS),

Capstone, Maternal Infant Support, LMC Trio, Michigan Works!, Community Connections, Heartland, Veteran's Administration, Volunteer Center, Health Dept., CARES, InterCare, Legal Aid, Southwest Community Action Agency (SMCAA), Neighbor to Neighbor, Catholic Family Services, MSU Extension, USDA Rural Development

The Housing Resource Network (HRN) of Berrien County is a collaboration of more than 60 agencies working to prevent and end homelessness. Two years ago they developed a 10 year plan to end homelessness and are in the continuing process of implementing that plan. Their goal is to increase the awareness of homelessness, educate the community and garner support for their plan.

Hospice at Home is the non-profit community hospice focusing on the patient and family regardless of the patients' diagnosis, treatment choices, life expectancy, or ability to pay. It provides quality care to people adjusting to living with a serious illness, to people facing death, to people anticipating the death of a loved one, or to people healing their grief after the death of a loved one. Hospice at Home places an emphasis on the emotional, social, and spiritual needs of those who need care and those receiving support services. Serving Berrien, Cass, Van Buren, and Allegan Counties, the care is coordinated by a team of physicians, nurses, home health aides, social workers, spiritual care counselors, bereavement coordinators, and trained volunteers. Extending this care, Lory's Place, a bereavement and education center that builds hope and strength for every grieving family, is available to anyone in Southwest Michigan or Northern Indiana.

InterCare's mission is to provide quality, comprehensive, community-based primary health care services to the community of Benton Harbor and also to its other sites in their network.

For more information about National Homeless Day Project Homeless Connect or Hospice at Home call 269-429-7100 or 1-800-717-3811, or go to www.hospiceathomecares.org.

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