



555 Towner St, P.O. Box 0915  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197-0915  
Phone: (734) 544-6700

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: June 20, 2007

Contact: **Cathleen Wilczynski**, Family Nurse Practitioner, Washtenaw County Public Health Department  
E-mail: [wilczynskic@ewashtenaw.org](mailto:wilczynskic@ewashtenaw.org)  
Phone: (734) 544-2963

**Gray R. Reynolds**, Communications Manager/PIO, Washtenaw County Public Health Department  
E-mail: [reynoldsg@ewashtenaw.org](mailto:reynoldsg@ewashtenaw.org)  
Phone: (734) 544-3091

**STATE BEST PRACTICES REPORT CITES COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**HIV Client Screening and Risk Assessment Earns Washtenaw County Public Health Department  
Best Practice Designation in Michigan Department of Community Health Report**

YPSILANTI, Mich., June 20, 2007—In its June 2007 publication, “Best HIV Prevention Practices of Local Health Departments & Community Based Agencies,” the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) recognized the Washtenaw County Public Health Department for its “best practices” work in HIV client screening and risk assessment.

The Health Department developed a client risk assessment that enables it to obtain a complete profile of client sexual and drug-taking risk behaviors. The assessment plays a critical role in the operation of the Health Department’s Adult Clinic, which has experienced a significant increase in the number of high-risk patients who visit seeking HIV counseling and testing services. The clinic treated 469 high-risk patients in 2004, 454 in 2005, and 598 in 2006.

“We’re pleased that the work we’ve done on this assessment is being recognized by the state as a best practice,” said Cathleen Wilczynski, Family Nurse Practitioner at the Washtenaw County Public Health Department. “We hope other local health departments and community based agencies can benefit from our experience and improve the quality of their HIV/AIDS counseling, testing, and referral services.”

MDCH’s Division of Health, Wellness & Disease Control has been conducting quality assurance visits to local health departments and community based organizations since 1991, with the objective of improving the quality of HIV/AIDS prevention services. The report documents best practices—often resulting from the introduction of new technology—that improve services, yet cost little in agency funding, personnel time, or other key resources.

For more information about the Washtenaw County Public Health Department, or about its HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment services, please visit <http://publichealth.ewashtenaw.org> or call (734) 544-6700.

Fax: (734) 544-6706  
Communicable Disease

Fax: (734) 544-6704  
Administration

Fax: (734) 544-6705  
Public Health

HEARING IMPAIRED: (734) 994-1733



WEB ADDRESSES: <http://www.ewashtenaw.org>

<http://publichealth.ewashtenaw.org>