



BERRIEN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Ann Sabo
616.485.1432
or
Amy Snow-Buckner
616.560.1655

Berrien County Health Department Will Host Hearing and Vision Screening Clinic for Homeschoolers and Virtual Students

Benton Harbor, Michigan, Dec. 27, 2022 – The Berrien County Health Department will host a hearing and vision screening clinic Wednesday, Jan. 4 for students in kindergarten through ninth grade who are homeschooled or attend school virtually.

The walk-in clinic will take place 9 a.m.-noon at BCHD's Benton Harbor office, 2149 E. Napier Ave., and Niles office, 1205 N. Front St. The clinic is free and open to all Berrien County residents.

"It's important for students to be screened by a professional for hearing and vision so they can be successful learners," said Melisa Jordan, BCHD's hearing and vision coordinator. "No matter their grade, we know a student's ability to learn, read and follow instructions can be negatively impacted if a hearing or vision problem goes undiagnosed.

"These hearing and vision screenings are critical to ensure students who aren't in a school setting are prepared to learn."

The hearing screening takes two to three minutes and features six sounds for the child to identify. If any hearing issues are discovered, the BCHD provides a referral for a hearing exam at the family's health care provider or the Berrien Springs Public Schools Hearing Center.

The vision screening takes five to 10 minutes and features six letters facing different directions for the child to indicate which way each one is pointing. Shapes are used for students who have a cognitive disability. If any vision issues are discovered, the BCHD provides a referral for an eye exam at the family's eye doctor of choice.

Find more information about the hearing and vision screening clinics on the BCHD's [website](#) or contact Melisa Jordan at mjordan@bchdmi.org or 269.926.7121, ext. 5293.

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