

Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency

August 28, 2013

**Kim Brown, BSN, RN
Prevention Services Director
517-279-9561 ext. 143**

**Theresa Christner, Health Ed./Health Promotion Dir.
517-279-9561, ext. 144**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sturgis WIC Satellite Clinic Has Moved!

Coldwater, MI. The Sturgis WIC Satellite Clinic has moved! Beginning *August 30, 2013*, the new location of the Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency's Sturgis WIC Satellite Clinic will be:

Grobhiser Building, Suite 104

600 S. Lakeview Ave.

Sturgis, MI 49091

This clinic will continue to offer scheduled appointments for WIC participants living in the Sturgis and surrounding communities every Friday, with plans to add Thursday clinics in the future. Clinics are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

According to Kim Brown, Prevention Services Director, "Moving the satellite clinic onto the hospital's medical complex makes sense. The Grobhiser building is home to several local obstetricians, as well as other specialists. By relocating the WIC satellite clinic into the same building with these medical providers, it will help to create a one-stop-shop environment for many of our Sturgis clients. It also allows us to add additional clinic days to the schedule, which is very much needed." Appointments can be scheduled by calling **(269) 273-2161**. Spanish translators are available.

WIC is a program that provides nutritious supplemental foods and education for pregnant women, breastfeeding moms up to one year after delivery, newborns up to one year of age and children ages 1 to 5 who meet the following guidelines:

- Michigan Resident (citizenship not required)
- Show a medical or nutritional risk. This can include anemia, overweight, underweight, an underlying chronic disease, pregnancy, inadequate growth or inadequate diet.

- Income Eligible: if you are on Medicaid, receive Food Stamps or fall at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Income guidelines have recently been updated to reflect **2013 poverty guidelines**, so many more people are now eligible for the program:

Income levels at or below 185% of Poverty (DHHS)

Family Size*	Hourly	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
1	\$10.22	\$409	\$1,772	\$21,257
2	\$13.80	\$552	\$2,392	\$28,694
3	\$17.38	\$695	\$3,011	\$36,131
4	\$20.95	\$838	\$3,631	\$43,568
5	\$24.53	\$981	\$4,251	\$51,005
6	\$28.10	\$1,124	\$4,871	\$58,442
7	\$31.68	\$1,267	\$5,490	\$65,879
Additional family +1	\$3.58	\$144	\$620	\$7,437

Why is participation in WIC important?

WIC participation has been proven to:

- Decrease the incidence of low birth weight and lowers the occurrence of pre-term deliveries.
- Dramatically lower infant mortality among Medicaid beneficiaries
- Lower the rate of anemia among children ages 6 months to 5 years.
- Lead to higher rates of immunization against childhood diseases
- Significantly improve children’s dietary intake of vitamins and nutrients

If you have any questions or to find out if you are eligible for WIC, feel free to stop by your local health department’s county offices in Coldwater, Hillsdale or Three Rivers, or call

Branch County

517-279-9561

Hillsdale County

517-437-7395

St. Joseph County

269-273-2161

To learn more about the WIC program, visit its website at www.bhsj.org.