



# BERRIEN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

better health. stronger communities.

## News Release

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For Immediate Release

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### Get Kids Ready for School at Berrien County Health Department “Back to School Bash”

(Berrien County, MI) - Summer is drawing to a close, which means that parents are getting their kids ready to head back to school in Michigan. Beyond buying school supplies and new outfits, it is important to make sure our kids are healthy and ready to learn when getting back to the classroom.

The Berrien County Health Department will host the 4<sup>th</sup> annual “Back to School Bash” on Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> from 9am-6pm at the main office located at 2149 E. Napier in Benton Harbor to help parents get their kids ready for a healthy school year. The Health Department will provide free hearing and vision screenings, immunizations required for school entry, healthy snacks, activities and giveaways for kids of all ages, as well as information about WIC, parenting education classes, health insurance assistance, and many other programs and services that can benefit families in Berrien County.

Representatives from local law enforcement will be at the event to continue building positive relationships between police departments and the community, allowing kids the opportunity to see inside police cars and a fire truck. Other community agencies, such as the Berrien County Great Start Collaborative, the Lions Club Project KidSight, and Michigan Child ID will also be in attendance.

“The Berrien County Health Department is happy to help make the transition easier, happier and healthier for parents and kids during this back to school season. We know that it can be a busy and stressful time for everyone,” said Health Officer, Nicki Britten.

In order to help keep children healthy and make sure they are ready to learn, Michigan state law requires that children receive certain immunizations before entering school. Additionally, children entering preschool and Kindergarten are required to have their hearing and vision screened. Parents can find more information about these school requirements and the Back to School Bash at [www.bchdmi.org](http://www.bchdmi.org) or by calling 269-926-7121.

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