James A. Barcia
Bay County Executive

Joel R. Strasz
Public Health Officer

1200 Washington Avenue
Bay City, Michigan 48708

(989) 895-4003
FAX (989) 895-4014
TDD (989) 895-4049
www.baycounty-mi.gov/Health

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: Local Media Sources
FROM: Joel R. Strasz, Health Officer
DATE: November 20, 2017

RE: Free HIV Testing on World AIDS Day December 1st

In observance of World AIDS Day, the Bay County Health Department along with Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center AIDS Care Services is offering free walk in HIV/AIDS testing for Bay County residents on December 1, 2017. Testing will take place at the Bay County Health Department from 10:00am – 3:00pm on a first come, first serve basis. Hepatitis A Vaccine will be available for adults. Fees may apply and insurance may be billed.

HIV Testing will be completed using a rapid test method. Results of the test are ready within 20 minutes. Counseling services through Sacred Heart Rehabilitation AIDS Care Services will be available for individuals both before and after taking the test. Resources and referrals will be made available for all individuals. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 1 in 7 people do not know they are infected with HIV. Early detection is essential in getting proper health care and stopping the spread of the virus. Knowing your HIV status gives you powerful information so that you can take steps to keep you and your partner healthy.

For more information on HIV/AIDS testing and care please visit the Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center webpage at http://www.sacredheartcenter.com/hivaids-care.html. You can also follow the Bay County Health Department of Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/Bay-County-Health-Department-Michigan-608779312467363/ or Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center AIDS Run/Walk Great Lakes Bay Region Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/aidswalkglbr/.

###