

**Contact: Gary Ridley**  
Communications &  
Social Marketing Coordinator  
Phone: 231-332-3893  
Gary.Ridley@healthwest.net

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Muskegon County organizations, schools, businesses band together to fight COVID-19 outbreak**

More than 100 organizations, businesses, non-profits, schools, and local governments have banded together to fight the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak in Muskegon County.

Together, the group has launched its own "Stay Home, Stay Safe, Save Lives" campaign to educate Muskegon County residents on the critical steps they can take to stop the spread of the disease and to ensure the health and safety of themselves and their loved ones.

"COVID-19 is in Muskegon County and is hurting our friends, neighbors, and those we love," said Muskegon County Public Health Officer Kathy Moore. "By working together, sharing a consistent message, and following some very basic safety precautions, we can save lives."

The campaign will encourage people to stay home and to follow safety precautions if they have to leave the house to get essentials, like medications or groceries.

It's going to take a true community effort to educate residents on the importance of following proper guidelines to stop the spread of COVID19 in our communities," said City of Muskegon Heights Mayor Walter Watt. "We need everyone's support to keep our communities healthy."

In an unprecedented move, organizations across Muskegon County agreed to come together with a unified voice to spread this message to stress the vital role everyone in Muskegon County has in stopping this outbreak.

By working together to stop the spread of COVID-19, Muskegon County residents can not only save lives but support our local businesses and residents who have been negatively affected by the economic impacts of the outbreak.

"While our organizations have different goals and priorities, we all share a common love for Muskegon County and those who live here," said HealthWest Executive Director Julia Rupp. "If there's one thing this community does well, we work together, put our differences aside, and fight for our whole community.

You will see aspects of this effort using the *Watch Muskegon – Stay Home, Stay Safe, Save Lives* message on social media, television, radio, video, and other grassroots efforts. The campaign also includes a video of dozens of community members speaking with one voice encouraging our neighbors to stay safe and do their part.

This collaboration pulled together quickly, and new groups and organizations are joining every day. Anyone can be part of this collective effort; it is crucial to represent a diversity of voices and perspectives from all sectors, municipalities, ages, and races.

"We are asking everyone in our community to join us in this fight," said Rupp.

**Sharable graphics and videos will be available here as they are finalized: <https://bit.ly/MuskegonCOVID>**

**Organizations that are already participating in this campaign include:**

Abeshi Ghanaian Cuisine  
AgeWell Services of West Michigan  
Arbor Circle  
Arts Council of White Lake - Nuveen Center  
Beachwood-Bluffton Neighborhood Association BBNA  
BOOM Youth Leadership Team  
Boys & Girls Club of the Muskegon Lakeshore  
Capstone Insurance Services  
Cedar Creek Township  
Child Abuse Council of Muskegon County  
City of Montague  
City of Muskegon  
City of Muskegon Heights  
City of North Muskegon  
City of Norton Shores  
Coalition for a Drug Free Muskegon County  
Coalition for Community Development  
Community Access Line of the Lakeshore (CALL 2-1-1)  
Community Coordinating Council  
Community enCompass  
Community Foundation for Muskegon County  
Community Gathering Initiative  
Cumulus Media  
Dalton Township  
Disability Network of West Michigan  
Fatty Lumpkins Sandwich Shack  
Fruitport Community Schools  
Goodwill Industries of West Michigan  
Great Lakes Dental Excellence  
Hackley Community Care  
Health Project  
HealthWest  
Holton Public Schools  
Holton Township  
Kuntry Cookin'  
Lakeshore Learning Center  
Love INC of Muskegon County  
Mediation & Restorative Services  
Mercy Health  
Mercy Health Arena  
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Muskegon County Office  
Mona Shores Public Schools  
Montague Area Public Schools  
Mount Zion Church of God in Christ

Muskegon Area Career Tech Center  
Muskegon Area District Library  
Muskegon Area Intermediate School District  
Muskegon Big Reds Football  
Muskegon Channel  
Muskegon Community College  
Muskegon Community Health Innovation Region  
Muskegon County  
Muskegon County Prosecutor's Office  
Muskegon County Sheriff's Office  
Muskegon Downtown Development Authority  
Muskegon Family Court  
Muskegon Heights Herco 1191 Laborers  
Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System  
Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce  
Muskegon Montessori Academy for Environmental Change  
Muskegon Oceana Community Action Partnership, Inc.  
Muskegon Public Schools  
Muskegon Township  
Muskegon YMCA  
Muskegon's Rebel Road  
MYalliance System of Care  
NAACP Lake Newaygo County  
NAACP Muskegon Branch #3147  
New Jerusalem Baptist Church  
New Life Christian Center  
Nims Neighborhood Association  
North Muskegon Public Schools  
Oakridge Public Schools  
Orchard View Schools  
Overcoming Barriers, Inc.  
Parties in the Park  
Pathfinders  
Pigeon Hill Brewing Company  
Public Health - Muskegon County  
Ravenna Public Schools  
Read Muskegon  
Reeths-Puffer Schools  
Revel  
Senior Resources of West Michigan  
Servicios de Esperanza, LLC  
Social Justice Commission  
Suicide Prevention Coalition of Muskegon County  
The Salvation Army  
The Tish  
This is the Situation Radio Podcast Show

Three Oaks Public School Academy  
Transition at Craig Campus  
United Way of the Lakeshore  
VFW Post 3195  
Visit Muskegon  
Volunteer For Dental  
Wesley School  
West Michigan Plumbers and Fitters  
West Michigan Works!  
Westshore Christian Academy  
White Lake Area Chamber of Commerce  
White Lake Community Library  
Whitehall District Schools  
Wonderland Distilling  
WUVS 103.7 The Beat

Other organizations are signing on every day.

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