



City of Detroit
Detroit City Council
Council Member Angela Whitfield Calloway
District 2

STATEMENT

TO: Denise Fair Razo, Chief Public Health Office of Detroit Health Department

THRU: Council President, Mary Sheffield

FROM: Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway *AWC*

DATE: February 13, 2024

RE: Concerning the Rise in Syphilis Cases and Declaring April as “Syphilis Awareness Month”

Since the start of this year, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has raised concerns about rising cases of syphilis, a sexually transmitted infection that can seriously affect the health of men, women, and infants.

In 2022, the U.S. surpassed the highest count of infections since 1950.

In Michigan, Syphilis rates have risen, on average, 11% annually since 2012. And, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has reported a 25% increase between the years of 2020 and 2021 alone.

In Detroit, we have the highest rate of syphilis cases in the state.

I share in the concerns of the experts from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention who are sounding this alarm nationwide.

In recognition of these facts, I am putting forth a resolution declaring April as “Syphilis Awareness Month” in the City of Detroit.

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