

News from the Office of ERIE COUNTY EXECUTIVE MARK POLONCARZ

NEWS RELEASE

Health Commissioner Dr. Gale Burstein

November 1, 2012,

CONTACT: JoAnne Paxon/ JoAnne.Paxon@erie.gov Phone: (716)858-4941/ Mobile: (716) 912-8692

Diabetes Forum Offers Health Screenings and Workshops

Area experts share expertise on management of diabetes and other chronic health issues

ERIE COUNTY, NY— November is Diabetes Alert Month. On November 19, 2012 from 2- 6 pm the Erie County Department of Health ("ECDOH") in collaboration with other county departments and community partners is sponsoring a Diabetes Forum at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center in Buffalo, New York. This forum is free to the public and the first 300 to attend will receive a gift. "Diabetes is a treatable, chronic, disease. Learning how to manage Diabetes is crucial to staying healthy," **said Erie County Health Commissioner Dr. Gale Burstein.** "The Diabetes Forum will provide valuable information and health screenings, such as glucose testing, bone density, mammograms and blood pressure to name a few."

The Diabetes Forum will include at no cost workshops such as Healthy Cooking demonstrations, Diabetes Academy, Emergency Preparedness activities and Exercise with Mr. Fitness as well as an opportunity to learn more about topics such as health insurance and the Yellow Dot program. There will be a Prescription Drug Drop Off for anyone wishing to dispose of old, outdated or no longer needed over the counter and prescription medications. Flu and Pneumonia vaccinations will be available. Anyone interested in receiving a Mammogram may do so by appointment only with a written physician's prescription. To schedule a mammogram, please call 1-855-464-7465.

Sponsors and contributors to the Diabetes Forum include the County of Erie, Catholic Health, INC. Nursing, Novo-Nordisk, Sweet Jenny's, Tops Market, Buffalo Bills, Buffalo Sabres, Vascuscript, and many others. There will be raffles and door prizes as well as refreshments.

To register for the Diabetes Forum go to <u>www.health.state.ny.us/gotoclinic</u> or if you have questions about this free event, please contact the Erie County Department of Health at (716) 858-7101

For more Information on Diabetes: American Diabetes Association <u>www.diabetes.org</u> American Cancer Society <u>www.cancer.org</u> National Diabetes Education Program <u>http://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/conditions/diabetes</u>