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## PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

**For Immediate Release**

**April 21, 2021**

### **The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update**

Today there were seventeen new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and seven new cases of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County.

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is urging residents to continue practicing safe behaviors and not give up the fight against the spread of COVID-19.

“Together, we can beat COVID,” said Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “We are asking everyone to not give up...we are making progress! Getting vaccinated is the safest way to in-school learning. Getting vaccinated is the safest way to gatherings this summer. Getting vaccinated is the safest way to hugs with friends and grandparents that you maybe haven’t seen in a year,” she exclaimed.

Today, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) announced that six million doses of COVID-19 have been administered. Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department has administered over 14,500 doses to Benzie and Leelanau residents since December 2020. According to the MDHHS’s COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard, Leelanau County has the highest coverage rate for individuals over 16 with their initial dose at 63.1%.

Starting next week, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department will begin to shift its vaccination strategies to include smaller pop-up clinics throughout the community. The health department will continue to hold larger clinics in each county to make sure individuals have access to their 2<sup>nd</sup> dose on time or soon after.

“The need for larger scale clinics with over 500 appointments is less necessary as more of the community becomes vaccinated and demand decreases. Residents have multiple choices when it comes to getting their vaccine,” said Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “We can beat COVID-19 if we come together and get vaccinated, wear a mask, maintain social distancing, limit social gatherings, stay home when sick, and wash and sanitize your hands often,” she said.

As of April 20th, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting the following:

- Number of vaccine doses allocated for this week: 1,970 doses
- Number of vaccine doses administered so far this week: 532 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses distributed to other providers: 1,014 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses administered: 14,422 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses received: 16,816 doses

As of 4:00 p.m. today, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting:

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 1,141, Leelanau– 1,178
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 189, Leelanau– 202
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 921, Leelanau– 960
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 31, Leelanau– 16
- Hospitalized: 147 total; 5 currently

The State of Michigan is reporting 804,724 cases and 17,031 deaths.

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