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## PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

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**For Immediate Release**

**April 22, 2020**

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

As of 2pm today, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting one additional case in Leelanau County. Total case counts are four positive cases of COVID-19 in Benzie County and eight positive cases in Leelanau County. We continue to identify and reach out to people who may have been exposed to any positive cases of COVID-19. The Health Department has recorded 159 individuals tested with 29 pending results. The State of Michigan has reported 33,966 cases and 2,813 deaths.

This morning we held a community conversation with over 30 partners within our two-county region to discuss and share response efforts and important information for the public. There were many questions about re-engagement planning and strategies. We agree that it is an important time to start planning for these transitions. The Governor has indicated this week that this process will likely be staggered and slow and that ongoing protective measures will be extremely important for businesses as they make plans to re-open. Health Officer, Lisa Peacock states “We want our business community to know that we are here for them. It is critical for businesses to consider now how they will keep both their employees and the public they are serving safe”.

Many of the protective measures required by our current emergency order such as screening of employees and social distancing measures will likely continue and businesses can look to our toolkits for resources to help them. For now, we continue to need the help of the community including our media and agency partners to continue to share the message to Stay Home, Stay Safe, Save Lives.

Additional and updated information can be found on our [Website](#) and [Facebook](#) or by calling our public information line 231-882-2197. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has a statewide hotline for COVID-19. Public health and other experts will answer health-related questions about COVID-19. The hotline will be open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1-888-535-6136.

We appreciate the dedication of all critical infrastructure workers – please join us in protecting them by staying home, only leaving for essential needs when absolutely necessary.

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