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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release

April 8, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

As of 2pm today, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting no additional cases of COVID-19 cases. Which leaves the count at zero in Benzie County and four in Leelanau County (one recovered). The Health Department will not be releasing press releases for new cases in Leelanau County but will be including them in the daily updates. The Health Department has recorded 90 individuals tested with 14 pending results. The State of Michigan has reported 20,346 cases and 959 deaths.

The most recent positive case, reported late yesterday, was an older man who was hospitalized but had no history of travel or known exposure and reports only household contacts. Lisa Peacock, Health Officer, stated "We hope this individual has a complete recovery and recognize that when we begin to see cases where a source can't be identified, it is an important reminder for everyone that that safest place for everyone is at home and leaving home should be limited to essential needs only."

This morning we held our second community conversation with over 80 partner agencies and stakeholders within our two-county region to discuss and share response efforts and important information for the public. We 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.

We are receiving reports of significantly increased traffic around our local parks and trails. Although physical activity is important during this stressful time, the Health Department would like to stress the importance of maintaining social distancing while out in the community. If you see that a park, trail head, or other outdoor recreation location is full/crowded, we ask you to find a different location or come back when that location is less busy. Social distancing is only effective if we all practice it properly. Thank you!

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.

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