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Benzie-Leelanau
DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT
CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

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For Immediate Release
January 25, 2021

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were two 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 has reported 22 new cases (Benzie- 10; Leelanau- 12) of COVID-19 since Saturday, January 23rd. Below is a summary of our cumulative cases for the timeframe 1/23/2021 -1/25/2021:

- Age:
  - 0-12 years – 0 cases
  - 13-19 years – 2 cases
  - 20-29 years – 3 cases
  - 30-39 years – 2 cases
  - 40-49 years – 2 cases
  - 50-59 years – 4 cases
  - 60-69 years – 3 cases
  - 70-79 years – 3 cases
  - 80-89 years – 1 case
  - 90+ years – 1 case
- Symptomatic – 80% of new cases, Asymptomatic – 20% of new cases that case investigations have been completed
- Recovered – 43 new recovered (Benzie-21, Leelanau-22)
- Hospitalization – 3 new reported
- COVID-19 Associated Death- 1 (Leelanau County, Male, 80's)

A new variant of the virus has now been identified in Michigan and although this is not unusual and was anticipated, it reminds us of the need to continue to be careful. The new variant, known as B.1.1.7., was first identified in the United Kingdom and has spread to the U.S., including southeast Michigan. No cases have been identified in northern Michigan at this time, health officials report. Although it is more transmissible - meaning on average it will spread to more people compared to the average strain - the good news is that the current COVID-19 vaccine appears to be effective against the strain and proper safety measures can help curb the spread of the more contagious variant.

"The new variant is expected to be more transmissible than the current – meaning it is likely that everyone person with the virus will infect 3 people they have close contact with instead of two. Because it is more transmissible, it is expected that it will overtake the current variation quickly and be the most predominant variation by spring," stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. "We will continue to balance the principles of equity and efficiency in our vaccination rollout and managing COVID-19 case investigation to the very best of our ability. Please continue to be careful and protect yourself and those you love!"

Due to the complexities that are outside of our control and the sheer number of people who wish to be vaccinated, we need to ask our communities to be patient. The estimated number of doses needed to fully vaccinate all those in Phase 1a and Phase 1b in the Benzie-Leelanau Health jurisdiction is approximately 30,000 doses, here is where we are currently:

- Number of vaccine doses available this week: 200 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses received: 1,796 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses administered: 1,596 doses

As of 4:00pm, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting:

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 812, Leelanau– 815
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 145, Leelanau– 171
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 639, Leelanau– 632
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 28, Leelanau– 12
- Hospitalized: 116 total; 8 current

The State of Michigan has reported 551,080 cases and 14,326 deaths.

Visit our COVID-19 Data Dashboard for the latest local information including recovered data and contact tracing. Michigan Department of Health and Human Service Dashboard: Dashboard. Additional and updated information can be found on our Website and Facebook or by calling our public information line 231-882-2197. If you have COVID-19 related question, fill out a quick survey, email questions to hotline@bldhd.org, or call our public information line at 231-882-2197.

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