

Benzie County Office 6051 Frankfort Hwy, Ste 100 Benzonia, MI 49616

Phone: 231-882-4409 Fax: 231-882-0143 Leelanau County Office 7401 E. Duck Lake Rd Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

Phone: 231-256-0200 Fax: 231-882-0143

www.bldhd.org

## PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release April 16, 2021

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

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

Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department in partnership with Munson Healthcare are offering four Pfizer clinics next week at local Benzie and Leelanau schools. <u>Appointments are still available</u> for all four clinics, so anyone interested in getting their COVID-19 Vaccine and getting protected again COVID-19 is welcome.

One BIG positive to get vaccinated during the clinics next week (4/21-4/24) is that the timeline of receiving a first dose that week enables a person to be considered fully vaccinated (2 weeks after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose) by Memorial Day weekend. Fully vaccinated people are not required to quarantine in the event of an exposure to COVID-19, which means less hassle for business owners. Community members, this also is a big plus as you can be fully vaccinated prior to the arrival of the thousands of visitors we expect to see in our area during this tourist season. Let's make Northern Michigan a safe place to live and visit!

"We first focused on our senior citizens and now they have a high level of protection, we focused on healthcare workers and school staff and now they have a high level of protection, and now we need to focus on the rest," stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. "High school students and their families need to be vaccinated so that school and all of the related milestones and activities can continue. Workers in restaurants, grocery stores, and our tourism industry need to be vaccinated so we can welcome visitors to our area and enjoy celebrations this summer and so that our economy can recover. And anyone who has been waiting because they feel someone else needs it more can now come forward – the best step you can take for anyone you are worried about is to get vaccinated yourself and contribute to that high level of immunity we need to protect everyone."

As of today, here is where we are currently:

- Number of vaccine doses allocated for this week: 1,400 doses.
- Number of vaccine doses administered so far this week: 1,285 doses.
- Total number of vaccine doses distributed to other providers: 974 doses.
- Total number of vaccine doses administered: 13,892 doses.
- Total number of vaccine doses received: 14,846 doses.

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 1,103, Leelanau– 1,151
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 168, Leelanau– 197
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 904, Leelanau– 938
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie 31, Leelanau– 16
- Hospitalized: 139 total; 2 currently

The State of Michigan has reported 779,777 cases and 16,771 deaths.

Media Contact: Rachel Pomeroy, PIO 231-882-6085 RPomeroy@bldhd.org