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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release

October 5, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were three new cases of COVID-19 identified in Leelanau County. The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department has reported four new cases (Benzie- 1; Leelanau- 3) of COVID-19 since Saturday. Below is a summary of our cumulative cases for the weekend (10/3-10/5):

- Age:
 - 60-69 years – 2 cases
 - 70-79 years – 2 cases
- Residents – 4 new case
- Symptomatic – 100% of cases for which case investigation is completed.
- Recovered – 3 new recovered (Benzie-2, Leelanau- 1)
- No new exposure sites

We know there is a lot of uncertainty in the face of the recent Supreme Court Ruling however we want to remind our residents that the underlying issues haven't changed. We are still living in the midst of a global pandemic which has taken the lives of over 1 Million people worldwide. In Michigan we have seen over 127,000 cases and over 6,800 deaths. This public health emergency continues to exist even without an official declaration in place.

There are many legal complexities related to the Governor's Executive Orders and the ruling of the Michigan Supreme Court but while those are being sorted out we want to implore our businesses and residents to continue to protect the community through the mitigation measures that continue to be in place. For example, masking protects those around us from our respiratory droplets, distancing of 6 feet or more protects us from close contact with someone who might not know they are infected, screening customers and employees serves to provide the safest environment for work and commerce, and adhering to gathering limits prevents rapid spread of the virus through multiple people into the community. Without a vaccine or a cure, COVID-19 continues to be a threat to our health and well-being and the only tools we have to fight it are isolation, quarantine, and these safety precautions we all can take.

"The safety precautions that we have been all been working so hard to implement since the beginning of this pandemic have kept Region 6 in Phase 5 and the transmission of COVID-19 down," stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. "Although we know that the confusion around these complicated legal matters poses a risk to continued protection, we believe in the people of Northern Michigan. We have learned so much and we have come so far together, now is the time to continue on and protect each other whether it is required by orders or not!"

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 73, Leelanau– 113
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 19, Leelanau– 22
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 52, Leelanau– 90
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 2, Leelanau– 1
- Probable COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie – 4, Leelanau– 9
- Hospitalized: 18 total; 1 current

The State of Michigan has reported 128,923 cases and 6,816 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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