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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release

January 15, 2021

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were five new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and seventeen new cases of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County. The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department has reported 60 new cases (Benzie- 17; Leelanau- 43) of COVID-19 since Tuesday, January 12th. Below is a summary of our cumulative cases for the timeframe 1/12/2021 -1/15/2021:

- Age:
 - 0-12 years – 1 case
 - 13-19 years – 5 cases
 - 20-29 years – 11 cases
 - 30-39 years – 6 cases
 - 40-49 years – 4 cases
 - 50-59 years – 8 cases
 - 60-69 years – 16 cases
 - 70-79 years – 5 cases
 - 80-89 years – 2 cases
 - 90+ years – 2 cases
- Symptomatic – 87.8% of new cases, Asymptomatic – 12.2% of new cases that case investigations have been completed
- Recovered – 51 new recovered (Benzie-17, Leelanau-34)
- Hospitalization – 3 new reported
- Transfer – 3 case transferred to another County (Benzie-2, Leelanau-1)

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department received notification this afternoon that the amount of Pfizer and Moderna vaccine being allocated to us *is less* than anticipated. (This may affect some of our already scheduled clinics).

- We were notified by Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS this afternoon that allocation plans for both Pfizer and Moderna have shifted.
- We will not be allocated vaccine based on the orders we placed yesterday but rather based on a population-based formula which has not yet been shared with us.
- This will affect both the type and amount of vaccine we will be receiving early next week which then may affect the clinics we have planned.
- This is an important reminder that the biggest barrier we are facing currently to reaching our vaccination goals is the **LIMITED DOSES OF VACCINE AVAILABLE**.
- Until MDHHS is able to establish a regular and predictable cadence for allocation we will be forced to plan just 1 week at a time.
- There have been reports in the popular media about the eventual release of additional allocations to the states however we have received no official notification of the validity or timing of this.

“These late changes require us to re-evaluate the feasibility of our scheduled clinics next week with the allocation we have just been notified we will be receiving,” stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “We want the community members to know that we have plans in place to provide safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine clinics but are limited on how many we can vaccinate due to the barriers of continually changing guidelines and vaccine allocation. We will communicate any necessary changes as soon as possible.”

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department hears and understands there are information and data requests from the public regarding the COVID-19 vaccine status in our jurisdiction. At this time, we can share the following information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine administration process.

- We have begun scheduling appointments and vaccinating individuals 65 and older.
- So far, the health department has held several off-site clinics administering 758 doses total across our jurisdiction.

- Our clinic process is working very smoothly and we are confident in our ability to continue to increase doses administered as soon as additional vaccine is allocated to us.

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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