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## PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

**For Immediate Release**

**January 21, 2021**

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

Today there were three new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and six new cases of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County. One Leelanau case was transferred to another county's jurisdiction due to an address change.

Health department clinics are offered each week, by appointment only according to the amount of vaccine we receive. Individuals eligible for vaccination, as determined by MDHHS, are asked to complete the [COVID-19 online pre-registration form](#) on the health department's [website](#) or call the senior hotline at 231-715-5557 if they are unable to access the form or have any other barriers to receiving the vaccination. For those calling the hotline number to get on the health department list, please know this hotline is experiencing an extremely high volume of calls. They recommend if you are unable to get through the first time to try again in a few hours.

There are several items we would like to speak to in response to multiple questions from community members.

- When appointments and vaccine are available, a scheduling link will be sent from the health department with a bldhd.org email address. After you are scheduled for a clinic, you will receive a confirmation email from [acuityscheduling.org](http://acuityscheduling.org). Please check your email inbox frequently, including junk mail and spam.
- We are currently scheduling according to the date the survey was submitted. When you completed the survey, we received the survey response with a date and time stamp automatically recorded. There is an extremely high demand for this vaccine, and we understand people are eager to get the vaccine. We will continue to strive for equity and efficiency in our vaccine scheduling process.
- Filling out the COVID-19 pre-registration survey more than once causes further delays and takes staff time to organize the information.
- We are currently overwhelmed by the number of emails and calls we are receiving from residents. We ask for residents to not call or email us to check where they are on the list. We are working on a mechanism of regular communication with those on the list.
- Each Friday we are notified about how much vaccine will be shipped for the following week, and we can then open appointments based on vaccine supply for that week. We send scheduling information out to those who have pre-registered in the order that your registration was received. Individuals who registered by phone through the senior hotline are incorporated into our waiting list and will be provided assistance with scheduling.

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 (not including today's clinic information):

- Number of vaccine doses available this week: 428 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses received: 1,533 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses administered: 1,105 doses

"It is clear that many people in our communities are excited about receiving the vaccine! This is a welcome sentiment however, currently a source of frustration is that supply cannot keep up with demand," stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. "By the end of this week, we will have administered just over 1,000 doses in the Benzie-Leelanau District. We continue to ask residents to have patience as we continue to work hard vaccinating our residents."

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie— 798, Leelanau— 794
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie— 156, Leelanau— 183
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie— 614, Leelanau— 600
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie — 28, Leelanau— 11
- Hospitalized: 113 total; 13 current

The State of Michigan has reported 544,311 cases and 14,053 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](mailto:hotline@bldhd.org), or call our public information line at 231-882-2197.

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