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## PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

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For Immediate Release

February 19, 2021

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

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

The health department continues to receive questions from our residents regarding the status of COVID-19 vaccine administration in Benzie and Leelanau counties. Here are answers to some of the more frequent questions we receive:

#### **Can I get my first dose here before I travel and get my second dose somewhere else?**

We ask individuals to be available 3-4 weeks after their first dose. It is difficult to schedule you if you are not available for the second dose as the doses are matched.

#### **Why can't the Health Department just order more vaccine?**

The Health Department receives a weekly allocation from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). We are no longer able to request COVID-19 vaccine. MDHHS has been using a formula to allocate vaccine to each health department based on population and Social Vulnerability Index.

The County level population formula estimates those who fit into Phase 1B group A and B (essential frontline workers, corrections staff, and school and childcare staff) and Phase 1C Group A (65 years and older). The CDC Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) is used to adjust population-based allocation of vaccinations to increase supplies to communities at greater risk for adverse outcomes from COVID-19.

#### **I am eligible, why can't I schedule an appointment for the COVID-19 Vaccine?**

We simply do not have the supply to vaccinate everyone who is eligible right now, so due to the demand for the vaccine, we have created a waiting list and are scheduling individuals in the order that they registered. We are working hard each week to equitably schedule our residents into the clinics. We continue to ask not to share scheduling links or phone numbers. We are continually working from our waiting list and that is the best way to ensure to make sure the individual is eligible and that we do not miss anyone. We have several staff members working on the waiting list to update those who have been scheduled, vaccinated somewhere else, and removing duplicates.

As of today, here is where we are currently:

- Number of vaccine doses allocated for this week: 700 doses (500 1<sup>st</sup> dose, 200 2<sup>nd</sup> dose)
- Number of vaccine doses administered so far this week: 605 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses received: 4,374 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses administered: 4,374 doses

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 879, Leelanau– 858
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 76, Leelanau– 56
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 773, Leelanau– 787
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 30, Leelanau– 15
- Hospitalized: 126 total; 0 current

The State of Michigan has reported 579,284 cases and 15,296 deaths.

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