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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release

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The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there was one new case of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and four new cases of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County.

Over the weekend, The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine. Yesterday, the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) updated their recommendations for the Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine. Johnson & Johnson is different than the other vaccines in the number of shots, age requirements, and shortage and handling.

- The Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine is authorized for use in individuals 18 years of age and older. Pfizer is also authorized for use in individuals 18 years of age and over and Moderna is authorized for use in individuals 16 years of age and older.
- The Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine must be stored at refrigerator temperatures, unlike Pfizer and Moderna which have much colder storage requirements.
- The Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine was approved for a single dose series compared to Moderna and Pfizer vaccine 2 dose series.
- The Janssen COVID-19 vaccine was developed using a slightly different but very effective technology compared to Moderna and Pfizer.

"The COVID-19 vaccine is more widely available now with more providers receiving allocations. We are excited to see the percentages of those in our community who are vaccinated continue to increase," stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. "All three manufacturers have completed clinical trials and gone through the proper steps to obtain approval from the Food and Drug Administration and have been shown to be safe and effective in providing protection against the coronavirus. We will soon add the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine to our toolbox."

Who is eligible for the vaccine right now?

- Phase 1A:
 - EMS, medical first responders, healthcare workers, and residents in long-term care facilities.
 - Now includes workers and those who have direct patient contact and conduct high risk procedures (e.g. dentists, endoscopy, dialysis, mortuary service). This group has been reclassified by MDHHS to be more consistent with federal interpretation of the ACIP guidance.
- PHASE 1B Group A and Group B:
 - Individuals- age 65 and older
 - Some frontline essential workers including:
 - Police officers
 - First responders
 - Frontline state and federal workers
 - Jail and prison staff
 - Pre-K-12 teachers and childcare providers
 - Adult and child protective services, and
 - Food Processing and Agriculture workers

As of today, here is where we are currently:

- Number of vaccine doses allocated for this week: 1450 doses (1050 1st dose, 400- 2nd doses)
- Number of vaccine doses administered so far this week: 580 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses received: 6,519 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses administered: 5,649 doses

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 895, Leelanau– 893
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 40, Leelanau– 54
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 825, Leelanau– 824
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 30, Leelanau– 15
- Hospitalized: 128 total; 2 current

The State of Michigan has reported 590,217 cases and 15,558 deaths.

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