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## PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

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**For Immediate Release**

**April 28, 2020**

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

The Governor's press conference yesterday afternoon reminded us that we should look forward to the future but also continue to be cautious and patient. Decreases in both positive cases and deaths across the state are encouraging trends. We want our business community to be informed and ready for re-engagement when the time comes. The data being compiled and analyzed by our Chief Medical Executive, Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, and the researchers who have been working on predictive modeling is being paired with the innovative and collaborative plan for economic re-engagement being developed by the Michigan Economic Recovery Council, a multi-sector group formed with the purpose of advising the Governor through full recovery.

"I feel confident that this re-engagement plan will be implemented with great care in northern Michigan as so many of our employers and businesses have already been taking these steps with diligence", stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer for the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department. We have had local orders in place for several weeks requiring screening and social distancing measures and the level of compliance with these orders has been extremely encouraging. We know that we have a firm foundation and that we will work together to restore the vibrant communities we all know and love. We want our business community to know that we are here to help them move through these stages in partnership to assure that they are able to operate with as little risk as possible.

With the issuance of the updated Public Health Emergency Order 2020-3 yesterday, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department has updated the essential business toolkit to reflect the updates as well as incorporated changes from Executive Orders 2020-59 and 2020-60. This toolkit is intended to provide helpful information to assist businesses who are currently operating to implement the required safety precautions included in these orders and is available [here](#).

As of 2pm today, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting four positive cases of COVID-19 in Benzie County and nine positive cases in Leelanau County. The Health Department has recorded 232 individuals tested with 27 pending results. The State of Michigan has reported 39,262 cases and 3,567 deaths.

Reminder, Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is holding a Community Call tomorrow at 11am as well as a media briefing on Thursday, April 30 at 11:30 am. Email [rpomeroy@bldhd.org](mailto:rpomeroy@bldhd.org) for an invite to these meetings.

Additional and updated information can be found on our [Website](#) and [Facebook](#) or by calling our public information line 231-882-2197. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has a statewide hotline for COVID-19. Public health and other experts will answer health-related questions about COVID-19. The hotline will be open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1-888-535-6136.

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