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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release

May 12, 2021

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

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

The governor and health officials are celebrating Michigan Public Health Week, May 9-16, by honoring those who choose the profession of serving their communities. This week, Governor Whitmer [proclaimed](#) May 9th-15th as Public Health Week in Michigan. In addition, Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist has created a [short video](#) to express his appreciation for all the hard work and dedication of our local public health workforce.

Chloe Willetts loves the problem-solving aspect of her role as an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. "Public health intrigues me because it is so essential to the way we function as a society, and yet people are mostly unaware of everything that is 'public health' functioning around them," she said, adding that her job allows her to "contribute to the public health picture by making sure our staff is trained to respond in emergencies such as global pandemics and upholding rapport with critical infrastructure to ensure strong partnerships in times of need."

Immunization Program Coordinator and Personal Health Supervisor Autumn Jurek on how she and fellow staff members contribute to the health of our communities through public health. "We do a great job taking care of each other, so that we are able to be that strong base for the people of our community. People call the Health Department for assistance with specific resources, but because of the team vision we have of what it means to really help people, they often walk away from what they may have thought was a limited interaction with so much more than one limited resource," Jurek said. "The level of service we provide to our community is bigger than the programs we offer. I could say that we contribute to the health of our communities by providing access to immunizations, family planning, WIC, and other programs. But my real answer is that we contribute to the health of our communities through the trusting relationships we form with people," she added.

Health Officer Lisa Peacock said all employees at the health department play critical roles with the public and behind the scenes. "They are the most dedicated professionals you could find. I am so proud of their commitment to assuring our communities are safe. Our staff are vital to assuring we all are safe and healthy when we eat at restaurants, enjoy a day at the beach, attend a community festival, get a well-baby checkup, get assistance to stop smoking, learn about healthy eating habits, get a flu or COVID-19 shot...and so much more," Peacock said. "We are here to serve our communities!"

Getting vaccinated is the best way to help the staff at the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department celebrate Michigan Public Health Week – and protect yourself, your family and your community – and enjoy the [full freedoms of being fully vaccinated](#). The health department is offering walk-in vaccinations or people can make an appointment at www.bldhd.org. Additional vaccination sites can be found at vaccines.gov. Residents can choose the date and location for their appointment.

Upcoming clinics for walk-ins or to make a reservation by clicking on the link provided include:

- **Thursday, May 13th**
 - Frankfort High School Gymnasium, 534 11th St, Frankfort, MI 49635
 - Time: 1:00- 5:45pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna, Janssen, and Pfizer (open to 16 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
 - To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)
- **Friday, May 14th**
 - Glen Lake School Gymnasium, 3375 W Burdickville Rd, Maple City, MI 49664
 - Time: 1:00- 5:45pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna, Janssen, and Pfizer (open to 16 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
 - To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

- **Saturday, May 15th**
 - Benzie Central Gymnasium, 9222 Homestead Rd, Benzonia, MI 49616
 - Time: 10:00- 12:00pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna, Janssen, and Pfizer (open to 16 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
 - To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

Our next scheduled pop-up clinic will take place in Benzie County this Saturday, May 15th at St. Ambrose Cellars in Beulah from 1-4pm. Pop-up clinic are offering Johnson and Johnson's Janssen and Moderna vaccine.

As of 4:00 p.m. today, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting:

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 1,232, Leelanau– 1,239
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 125, Leelanau– 94
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 1,075, Leelanau– 1,129
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 32, Leelanau– 16
- Hospitalized: 154 total; 3 currently

The State of Michigan is reporting 869,512 cases and 18,355 deaths.

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