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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release
May 20, 2021

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

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

Lisa Peacock, Health Officer with the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department, represented northern Michigan on the governor's [MI Blueprint for Comprehensive Student Recovery](#) which was released yesterday. The guidance helps districts and schools create recovery plans that provide every Michigan student with the resources they need to thrive post-pandemic.

Through evidence-based recommendations, the blueprint addresses challenges across wellness, academics, school culture and climate, family and community engagement and postsecondary education.

Peacock, along with Dr. Omkar Karthekeyan, a pediatrician from the Ann Arbor area, co-chaired the Physical Health Subcommittee. Together, they worked with a diverse group of stakeholders to develop recommendations focused on the physical and emotional well-being of the whole child.

Among the multiple important recommendations contained in the blueprint, one key recommendation made by the subcommittee co-chaired by Peacock, was that every child deserves a pediatric medical home where they can receive comprehensive well child care including immunizations and support for important developmental milestones as well as access to a school nurse and a school social worker.

"It was an honor to give input on the health needs of Michigan students and we hope these recommendations are operationalized so our students can recover fully from the impact of the pandemic," Peacock said.

Some of the most pressing challenges schools face now aren't new, but they have been exacerbated by the pandemic, resulting economic hardship, and social divisions, state officials said.

"The Blueprint lays out a clear multi-year plan for the holistic, whole child recovery for Michigan's students," said Kevin Polston, Superintendent of Godfrey-Lee Public Schools and Chair of the Student Recovery Advisory Council. "Every recommendation is supported by leading research and designed to support Michigan students by those that know them best - leaders in education, health care, and child services from right here in Michigan."

In February, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced a group of cross-sector experts representing education, health, and community leaders to serve on the Student Recovery Advisory Council. The council was created to identify the critical issues facing students and staff that must be addressed and to build resources to help local education leaders in developing and implementing a comprehensive recovery plan that is multi-year, evidence-based, and equity-driven. To view the governor's Blueprint for Comprehensive Student Recovery, visit Michigan.gov/studentrecovery.

The health department is offering multiple opportunities for walk-in vaccinations as well as easy appointment scheduling that can be found at www.bldhd.org. Additional vaccination sites can be found at vaccines.gov. Residents can choose the date and location for their appointment. In addition, our vaccination teams can be found in multiple locations around our communities holding small pop-up clinics which offer multiple vaccine choices with no appointment needed!

Information about upcoming pop-up and weekly clinics can be found below:

- **Friday, May 21st**
 - Shop N Save, 1747 Benzie Hwy, Benzonia, MI 49616
 - Pop-up clinic, walk-ins welcome
 - 11am-2:00pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna and Janssen (open to 18 or older)

- Frankfort High School Varsity Baseball Game, 534 11th Street, Frankfort, MI 49635
 - Pop-up clinic, walk-ins welcome
 - 6:00-7:00pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna, Pfizer, and Janssen (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
- Buntings Cedar Market, 9054 S Cedar Rd, Cedar, MI 49621
 - Pop-up clinic, walk-ins welcome
 - Time: 2:00-4:30pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna and Janssen (open to 18 or older)
- Dick's Pour House, 103 W Philip St. Lake Leelanau, MI 49653
 - Pop-up clinic, walk-ins welcome
 - Time: 5:00-7:00pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna and Janssen (open to 18 or older)

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 1,240, Leelanau– 1,251
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 94, Leelanau– 71
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 1,114, Leelanau– 1,164
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 32, Leelanau– 16
- Hospitalized: 158 total; 2 currently

The State of Michigan is reporting 881,057 cases and 18,815 deaths.

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