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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release

June 24, 2021

Delta variant spreading rapidly; Even more important to get vaccinated now.

The Delta variant of COVID-19 is spreading rapidly across the U.S. and could become the dominant strain in the next few weeks, making it even more important for those not yet fully vaccinated to receive their shot - especially youth.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released data recently showing that the prevalence of the Delta strain more than doubled over the two weeks ended June 19 to 20.6% of positive COVID-19 positive tests, compared with 9.9% in the week ended June 5.

“We strongly urge those who are not fully vaccinated to get their COVID-19 vaccine,” said Lisa Peacock, Health Officer with the Health Department. “All three vaccines – Pfizer, Moderna and J&J – have proven to be safe and effective against this new variant, which is highly transmissible and particularly risky to people who are unvaccinated,” Peacock said.

As summer gets into full swing, the health department is urging parents to consider getting their child, ages 12-18, vaccinated now so they can safely gather with family and friends throughout the coming months and be fully vaccinated in time for sports and return to school in the fall.

The health department continues to offer regular vaccination clinics throughout the two-county jurisdiction. Public health nurses are on site at these events and able to answer any questions that residents may have regarding the vaccines. All clinics are open to walk-ins or people can register by clicking on the clinic link below:

- **Tuesday, June 29th**
 - Suttons Bay Middle School Gymnasium, 310 S. Elm Street, Suttons Bay, MI 49682
 - Time: 10:00-12:00pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna, Janssen, and Pfizer (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
 - To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)
- **Wednesday, June 30th**
 - Crystal Cafe, 1681 Benzie Hwy, Benzonia, MI 49616
 - Time: 4:00- 6:00pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna, Janssen, and Pfizer (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
 - To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 1,257, Leelanau– 1,260
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 8, Leelanau– 2
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 1,215, Leelanau– 1,242
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 34, Leelanau– 16
- Hospitalized: 160 total; 0 currently

The State of Michigan is reporting 893,002 cases and 19,598 deaths.

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