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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release
July 22nd, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were two new cases of COVID-19 identified in Leelanau County and one new case of COVID-19 identified in Benzie County. Benzie County cases decreased by one due a change in classification. The investigation of the most recent cases are in progress and the information known at this time is below:

- Age:
 - 0-19 years – 1 case
 - 20-29 years – 1 case
 - 40-49 years – 1 case
- Residents – 2 new cases; Unknown – 1 new case
- Symptomatic – 33% of cases; Unknown – 67% of cases
- Newly Recovered- 0
- Currently Hospitalized – 2
- Potential low-risk public exposure locations where close contacts may not have been able to be identified include:
 - No new exposure sites

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department continues to see an increase of cases among people, with about a third of all total cases in Benzie and Leelanau associated with individuals under thirty years old. After completing case investigations, there has been some consistency among those infected cases including many young people have not been mindful of social distancing and mask wearing.

"It is extremely important that we increase local COVID-19 testing for any individual, but especially for those with symptoms, risk due to travel, and possible exposure," shared Dr. Meyerson, Medical Director. "The state of Michigan slogan that reflects the overarching goal of the COVID-19 response is 'Test, Trace, and Protect' and in order to best serve our communities, we must increase local testing availability. We are hopeful that our State partners will assist us in reaching this goal." The local health officers have reached out to MDHHS to request assistance in improving out testing capacity in Northern Michigan. For information on currently available local [test sites](#).

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 23, Leelanau– 54
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 5, Leelanau– 12
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 1

The State of Michigan has reported 75,248 cases and 6,141 deaths.

Visit our [COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#) for the latest local information including recovered data and contact tracing. Michigan Department of Health and Human Service Dashboard: [Dashboard](#). Additional and updated information can be found on our [Website](#) and [Facebook](#). Residents can ask questions, make comments, share information, or report a concern about non-compliance with executive orders by email hotline@bldhd.org or visit our website and click the link to fill out an electronic form for [COVID-19 questions](#) or a [Noncompliance Reporting Form](#).

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