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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release
July 6th, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

In addition to a steady increase over the past week, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is investigating a new cluster of cases in Leelanau County that includes several young adults who had attended gatherings that included visitors from out of state. As of 2pm today, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting seven new cases in Leelanau County and one new case in Benzie County over the holiday weekend. This brings the total case counts to nine positive cases of COVID-19 in Benzie County and twenty-seven positive cases of COVID-19 in Leelanau County. The State of Michigan has reported 66,173 cases and 5,975 deaths.

Case investigation has been completed for these new positive cases and approximately 90 close contacts have been identified so far. The Health Department staff is in the process of contact tracing with these individuals to instruct in quarantine requirements. It is difficult to identify everyone who may be a potential close contact in this situation and therefore, anyone who visited the Leland Lodge on 6/28 or 6/29 from 4 pm – 10 pm and the Leland Country Club on June 29, 10 am – 3 pm, June 30, 10:30-2:30 or July 2, 10:30 am - 2:30 pm should self-monitor for symptoms and seek testing should they develop.

This situation reminds us that young people are not immune to COVID-19 and that anyone can be asymptomatic and unknowingly spreading it. The immediate impact on our local businesses is evidence that COVID affects the entire community and we must each do our part for each other – wash up, mask up, and spread out. Recent local cases include staff of local businesses which has resulted in some temporary closures during their busiest time due to the staffing shortages created by exposures.

“We strongly encourage the community to take the proper precautions and avoid the risks that come with attending gatherings of large groups, especially where distance cannot be maintained and avoiding travel to and from other areas where cases are on the rise,” shared Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “We understand that residents are growing weary, but we need to take these precautions in order to not take steps backwards.

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](#) or by calling our public information line 231-882-2197.

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