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## PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

**For Immediate Release**  
**September 16, 2020**

### **The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update**

Today there were three new cases of COVID-19 identified in Benzie County and two new cases of COVID-19 in Leelanau County. The case investigation is in progress.

Although COVID-19 is novel, contact tracing is not. Contact tracing is a public health tool that is used to help stop the spread of certain communicable diseases. Contact tracing involves reaching out to people who are recently confirmed to have the disease (also known as a “case”), identifying others that may have had close contact with the case, and giving those close contacts guidance on how to stay safe and healthy. It has been done for decades to slow the spread of infectious diseases and is a great tool to track COVID-19 infections to protect communities.

“Our goal is to contact new cases and close contacts within 24 hours of the case being identified,” shared Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “Contact tracing is a critical step to identify close contacts, help provide accurate information, and slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities. All information is confidential and judge free. Help us by doing your part to slow the spread.”

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 57, Leelanau– 97
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 20, Leelanau– 24
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 35, Leelanau– 72
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 2, Leelanau– 1
- Probable COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie – 4, Leelanau– 9
- Hospitalized: 17 total; 2 current

The State of Michigan has reported 113,863 cases and 6,623 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](#) or by calling our public information line 231-882-2197. If you have COVID-19 related question, fill out a quick [survey](#), email questions to [hotline@bldhd.org](mailto:hotline@bldhd.org), or call our public information line at 231-882-2197.

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