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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release

April 14, 2021

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were 19 new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and 18 new cases of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County.

Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department in partnership with Honu Lab and MDHHS is bring more opportunities for free rapid COVID-19 testing in Leelanau County. The [drive-through events](#) will be held at the Suttons Bay Old Middle School from 12-6pm on Monday, April 19th and Monday, April 26th and will provide rapid and PCR testing. They are free event is open to the public, walk ins welcome, and no doctor's order required.

Our waiting list to get a COVID-19 vaccination is almost exhausted and appointments are available immediately for clinics in Benzie and Leelanau counties. As of 4/13/2021, 75.7% of residents 65 and over and more than 55% of all residents 16 and over in Benzie and Leelanau Counties who have received their first or initial dose, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department has moved to self-scheduling for vaccination clinics. Below are listed 1st dose clinics for next week:

- Wednesday, April 21 (Second Dose May 12- **Must be available**)
 - Suttons Bay Old Middle School, 310 S. Elm Street, Suttons Bay
Time: 11:00- 6pm
Vaccine: Pfizer (open to 16 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)
- Thursday, April 22 (Second Dose May 13- **Must be available**)
 - Frankfort High School, 534 11th St, Frankfort, MI 49635
Time: 1:00- 5:45pm
Vaccine: Pfizer (open to 16 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)
- Friday, April 23 (Second Dose May 14- **Must be available**)
 - Glen Lake School Gymnasium, 3375 W Burdickville Rd, Maple City, MI 49664
Time: 1:00- 5:45pm
Vaccine: Pfizer (open to 16 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)
- Saturday, April 24 (Second Dose May 15- **Must be available**)
 - Benzie Central Gymnasium, 9222 Homestead Rd, Benzonia, MI 49616
Time: 10:00- 2:00pm
Vaccine: Pfizer (open to 16 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

The health department has started to post scheduling links as more appointments become available and the pre-registration link is also available on the [website](#). Health Department staff will continue to reach out to those already pre-registered to offer available appointments. Anyone who needs assistance scheduling an appointment should call 2-1-1 or their local Senior Services.

"I look forward to this opportunity to speak to our community about how we are addressing COVID-19 in our region and also answer questions from residents," Peacock said. "We know we are in a race between widespread vaccination of the community and the mutation of the virus into more transmissible variants. In local public health, we try not to get too distracted by the never-ending changes that could lead you in the wrong direction but rather we try to keep our 'eyes on the prize' and keep moving forward. It's not that we aren't required to shift and adjust our strategies along the way but we always try to remember the big picture. We are experiencing rising cases and outbreaks – again. This has become a familiar pattern and we know that this virus is behaving as viruses do," she said.

Given the opportunity to pass from person to person in close contact, the virus is evolving into something stronger, Peacock explained, adding, “We have stopped it before and we can stop it again – if we all stay home and prevent its opportunities to spread. We know how to do this but we also know the cost is high and the ability to tolerate prolonged mitigation measures is crumbling. We need to remember all we have learned and continue to be cautious – wear our masks, avoid close contact whenever possible, and keep our gatherings small especially indoors. We have a powerful tool to combat this virus, and that tool is the COVID-19 vaccine!” Peacock said.

As of today, here is where we are currently:

- Number of vaccine doses allocated for this week: 1,310 doses.
- Number of vaccine doses administered so far this week: 594 doses.
- Total number of vaccine doses distributed to other providers: 954 doses.
- Total number of vaccine doses administered: 13,462 doses.
- Total number of vaccine doses received: 14,846 doses.

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 1,076, Leelanau– 1,135
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 147, Leelanau– 188
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 898, Leelanau– 931
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 31, Leelanau– 16
- Hospitalized: 139 total; 2 currently

The State of Michigan has reported 764,519 cases and 16,619 deaths.

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