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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release
March 16, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department notified of first COVID-19 case in Leelanau County

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting a presumptive positive case of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in a Leelanau County resident. The individual, an adult male, was exposed out of state and has been admitted to Munson hospital.

The Health Department is working with him to identify and contact anyone potentially exposed and will maintain regular contact after his hospital discharge to ensure his needs are met during his continued isolation until he is no longer contagious. Additional information and guidance will be announced as soon as possible at bldhd.org or on the health department's Facebook page- www.facebook.com/BenzieLeelanauDHD/

There is currently no vaccine to prevent Coronavirus disease (COVID-19). "We are relying on everyone in our community to work together to slow the spread of COVID-19 through prevention measures," said Joshua Meyerson, MD, Medical Director for the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department.

- **Clean your hands often. Scrub** with soap **for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer if you cannot wash.**
- **Avoid close contact with people who are sick.**
- **Stay home when you are sick**, except to get medical care. Call ahead before going to your healthcare provider.
- **Cover your cough or sneeze** with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Immediately wash your hands.
- **Clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces.**
- **Follow the Governors orders and recommendations to limit gatherings**

Older adults and people who have severe underlying chronic medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness. [View additional prevention steps from CDC](#) for people at higher risk. Consult with your health care provider for more steps you may be able to take to protect yourself.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has created a statewide hotline for COVID-19. Public health and other experts will answer health-related questions about COVID-19. The team can also direct residents, providers and more to the right resources in their local communities and in other state government departments. The hotline will be open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1-888-535-6136.

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