ANNOUNCING ELEVEN (11) NEW COVID-19 CASES, 5 BREAKTHROUGH CASES, BOOSTER SHOTS AND ADDITIONAL DOSE, PFIZER VACCINE GAINS FULL FDA APPROVAL

August 23, 2021

- The GTB Health Department is reporting eleven (11) new positive COVID-19 cases from August 17th through August 19th. The local health departments for Leelanau, Grand Traverse and Antrim County were notified as the county of residence and are in the process of completing a case investigation. If you’ve been identified as a close contact (someone who has been within 6 feet of an infected person) (laboratory confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) for a cumulative of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. An infected person can spread the virus that causes COVID-19 starting from 2 days before they have any symptoms or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days before the positive specimen collection date) during the course of the case investigation, please expect to receive a call or text from the local health department or the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. It is critically important you respond to the call or text in order to protect the community from further spread.

- A reminder for the following upcoming dates for vaccinations. Additionally, COVID-19 vaccinations continue to be offered at any patient encounter.

COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for all people aged 12 years and older, including people who are pregnant, breastfeeding, trying to get pregnant now, or might become pregnant in the future. Additionally, it is strongly encouraged that close contacts of immunocompromised people be vaccinated against COVID-19 to provide another layer of protection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 24, 2021</td>
<td>Charlevoix Office</td>
<td>1pm to 2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 31, 2021</td>
<td>Herkner Road (Traverse City)</td>
<td>5pm to 7pm</td>
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The GTB Health Department has two convenient options to schedule. You can call the GTB COVID-19 Vaccine Line (231-534-7475). Or, you can utilize a self-schedule option for COVID-19 vaccinations. Individuals can select dates and times that would be convenient. Additionally, individuals will receive notifications of their upcoming appointment, options to modify, or cancel their appointment by text. A link to the platform can be found on the main GTB health services page, [http://gtbindians.org/health_services.asp](http://gtbindians.org/health_services.asp) >> COVID-19 Vaccine Self-Schedule (Solv). We encourage calling the GTB COVID-19 Vaccine Line or the self-scheduling option to allow for planning. Walk-ins will be accepted however vaccine doses may not be available.
The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians
2605 N. West Bay Shore Drive • Peshawbestown, MI 49682-9275 • (231) 534-7211

You can also click on the following links to schedule directly at the location for upcoming dates:

Benzie site: https://www.solvhealth.com/book-online/0xwOwg
Charlevoix site: https://www.solvhealth.com/book-online/gZJPYg
Herkner Road: https://www.solvhealth.com/book-online/AWoXXA
Medicine Lodge: https://www.solvhealth.com/book-online/A6dKIg

The GTB Health Department has administered 3,890 doses, including 2,046 first doses, 1,844 second doses, 2,221 Moderna doses, 1,641 Pfizer doses, and 28 Johnson & Johnson doses.

Currently, 59% of GTB tribal members age 12 and over and 82% of GTB elders age 55 and over in the 6-county service area are vaccinated. Also, specifically for GTB tribal members 12 to 17 year of age, 56% in the 6-county service area have received at least one shot with 52% fully vaccinated. Overall, 41% of GTB tribal members 12 to 17 years of age have received at least one shot with 37% fully vaccinated.

- Below is summary information for 183 cumulative positive cases to-date tested at the GTB Health Department:
  - 21 cases since August 1, 2021.
  - 9 cases in the week of August 9, 2021.
  - 11 cases in the week of August 16, 2021.
  - Average age of cases in August 2021 is 21.8 years old compared to 35.1 prior to August 2021.
  - 5 breakthrough case in August 2021 as follows:
    - Two (2 symptomatic) Pfizer
    - Two (2 asymptomatic) Moderna
    - One (1 symptomatic) Johnson and Johnson.

By Age
- 0-20 – 58 cases
- 20-29 yrs – 33 cases
- 30-39 yrs – 29 cases
- 40-49 yrs – 20 case
- 50-59 yrs – 20 cases
- 60-69 yrs – 15 cases
- 70-79 yrs – 4 cases
80-89 yrs – 3 cases
>89 yrs – 1 case

By County
- Leelanau – 77
- Benzie – 3
- Grand Traverse – 75
- Kalkaska – 4
- Manistee – 2
- Charlevoix – 7
- Antrim – 14
- Ingham – 1

***There are more active cases in the community that were tested at other facilities that are not included in this tally.

- COVID-19 vaccines for moderately to severely immunocompromised people. Currently, CDC is recommending that moderately to severely immunocompromised people receive an additional dose. This includes people who have:
  - Been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood
  - Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
  - Received a stem cell transplant with the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
  - Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
  - Advanced or untreated HIV infection
  - Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress your immune response.

Please contact the GTB Health Department to schedule your additional dose (231-534-7475). Also, please talk with your GTB medical provider (231-534-7200) or your health provider about getting an additional dose for your particular medical condition.

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced booster shots will be needed for everyone to maximize and prolong the protection offered by the vaccines. The plan is to offer booster shots beginning in the week of September 20, 2021 for all individuals that are 8 months after their second dose. The Food and Drug Administration must first approve the efficacy and safety of the third dose of the Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines and the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices must issue booster dose recommendations based on a
thorough review of the evidence. Data on booster shots for individuals that received the Johnson and Johnson vaccine is pending and a separate announcement will be made on a Johnson and Johnson booster shot.

The GTB Health Department will soon provide more information on scheduling a booster dose. Please note, individuals who were vaccinated the earliest in the vaccination rollout, will likely be eligible for a booster. The GTB Health Department will follow appropriate recommendations for COVID-19 vaccine boosters and will offer booster doses in the week of September 20, 2021 subject to appropriate FDA and CDC approval.

- **FDA fully approved the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine on August 23, 2021.** The vaccine has been known as Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, and now will be marketed as Comirnaty, for the prevention of COVID-19 disease in individuals 16 years of age and older. The vaccine continues to be available under emergency use authorization (EUA), including for individuals 12 through 15 years of age and for the administration of a third dose in certain immunocompromised individuals.

Please note, the GTB Health Department tests tribal members and families, government employees, government entities, and essential support groups to GTB when possible.

Respectfully,

Soumit Pendharkar, MHA, FACHE
Health Administrator