The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is mandated by the Michigan Public Health Code to promote wellness, prevent disease, provide quality healthcare, address health problems of vulnerable populations, and protect the environment for the residents and visitors of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Otsego counties. For more information, visit nwhealth.org.

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September 17, 2020

Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting 3 new confirmed cases in Emmet (1) and Otsego (2) counties. Case investigations and contact tracing are in progress, and relevant information will be shared when it is available.

This week we offered free community testing with the support of the National Guard. Over the two-day period we were able to administer 303 total COVID-19 tests, 195 at the Emmet County Fairgrounds and 108 at the Otsego County Fairgrounds. Of these tests there were 6 total positive tests.

Today we are reporting case investigation information for 8 confirmed COVID-19 cases, and 3 probable COVID-19 cases. The following information is from case investigations completed September 17th.

- All 11 cases are primary residents
- Age:
  - 0-12 years – 2 cases
  - 20-29 years – 1 case
  - 30-39 years – 2 cases
  - 40-49 years – 2 cases
  - 50-59 years – 2 cases
  - 60-69 years – 1 case
  - 70-79 years – 1 case
- Symptomatic: 11 cases; Asymptomatic: 0 cases
- 1 case linked to travel either into or out of the area as reported during their case investigation
- Over 41 total close contacts identified, notified, and instructed to quarantine

During case investigations, the following locations were identified as potential low-risk, public exposure site.

- Pierson’s Grille & Spirits, Harbor Springs on September 8th and 9th from 4:00 – 11:00 pm
- Family Fare, Gaylord on September 8th and 9th from 1:00 – 10:00 pm

The above locations have been contacted and is working with the health department to ensure their employees and customers are safe. If you have questions about testing or about your potential exposure, please call the health department at 1-800-432-4121.

“It is truly critical that everyone take a moment and remember that everyone is doing their best, with what they have, each day,” stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “This pandemic is hard for everyone in every way but especially hard for those who are already suffering – the poor, the isolated, the sick, the lonely, the marginalized. However, there is hope in the heroes all around us.”
As of 4:00pm, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting:

- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 42, Charlevoix – 57, Emmet – 86, Otsego – 105
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Charlevoix – 3, Emmet – 4, Otsego – 11.

The State of Michigan has reported 114,692 cases and 6,632 deaths.

Stay up to date on the latest information in the Health Department jurisdiction by liking and following our Facebook page and visiting our COVID-19 Data Dashboard. To locate a testing facility, visit the Michigan COVID-19 Test Finder website. To track the risk levels of COVID-19 pandemic indicators, visit the MI Safe Start Map website.

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