

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

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The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting 23 new cases in Antrim (6), Charlevoix (7), Emmet (5), and Otsego (5) counties. Case investigation and contact tracing are in progress, and relevant information will be shared when it is available.

Today, Governor Whitmer and Michigan Department of Health and Human Service (MDHHS) announced starting Monday January 11th, residents in Phase 1B are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. MDHHS announced changes to who is eligible for Phase 1B and now includes individuals 65 years and older and frontline workers (school and childcare staff, frontline responders (County, state, and federal levels), and staff in jails, prisons, and shelters). At this time our process has not changed, those who are in a Phase eligible to request an appointment can do so online through our [COVID-19 Vaccine Information Form](#).

Area Agency on Aging (AAA) has created an aging hotline to help assist older adults inquiring about when/where for COVID-19 vaccine information, individuals can call 231-715-5557. We ask that you do not call the health department requesting an appointment. We will be calling individuals, by Phase, who have completed the [COVID-19 Vaccine Information Form](#) to schedule appointments for vaccination. While vaccine supplies are limited, vaccine clinics are appointment-only and are scheduled at specific times. As soon as we are ready to schedule Phase 1B appointments we will share this information widely as we are excited to continue administering COVID-19 vaccines. We are asking our residents to monitor our daily updates and website for news on our status with these phased vaccinations.

“Our clinic appointments are currently scheduled with healthcare workers and we will expand as quickly as possible. As we receive additional allocations of vaccine, we will continually open more clinic appointments. We are also working closely with our hospital and provider partners to ensure a smooth and efficient process,” stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “The COVID-19 vaccine process is rapidly changing, and we understand everyone is eager to get the vaccine. We are not currently scheduling Phase 1B but are collecting information through our website and have plans to start in the near future. Please be patient and we will update everyone regularly.”

As of 4 pm, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting :

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 701, Charlevoix – 872, Emmet – 1,264, Otsego – 1,042
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 490 Charlevoix – 706, Emmet – 990, Otsego – 800
- Confirmed COVID-19 associated deaths in the following counties: Antrim – 10, Charlevoix – 10, Emmet – 32, Otsego – 24

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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The State of Michigan is reporting 508,736 cases and 12,918 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](#). For more information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, visit the MDHHS [vaccine website](#) or the [CDC vaccine website](#).

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