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**January 18, 2021**

**Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update**

**Over 3,000 to be vaccinated this week at  
Health Department clinics**

Despite receiving fewer doses of COVID-19 vaccine for the upcoming week than requested from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is preparing to vaccinate more than 3,000 individuals this week.

Last Friday, MDHHS informed the health department that vaccine allocations would be adjusted for the upcoming week, using a population-based formula. Due to this change the health department's four-county region is receiving fewer dosages than anticipated for clinics this week.

"The state is facing ongoing challenges with having adequate allocation of vaccine to fill all of the orders submitted by providers. We did not receive all of the doses we requested this week, and therefore are having to make some adjustments to our planned clinics," said Health Officer Lisa Peacock. "Despite the reduction, we are making great progress. We will only schedule appointments for the doses we receive, and we are working hard to distribute the vaccine in an efficient and equitable way, including ensuring that the highest risk age group has adequate access to appointments. The unpredictable nature of our allocations forces us to work through this one week at a time."

This week the health department plans to host clinics in each of its counties – Antrim, Charlevoix (including Beaver Island), Emmet and Otsego counties. We are prepared to vaccinate over 3,000 people, including 290 individuals who will receive their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Clinics continue to be scheduled by appointment only and are currently scheduled according to federal and state guidelines for individuals in Phase 1B, including educators and other frontline workers, and those in 1C who are 65 and older.

The health department is working to meet the state of Michigan's direction to utilize 75 percent of the total vaccine allocation to be used for those 65 and older. Community partners, such as Munson and McLaren health systems, Area Agency on Aging, United Way, county Commissions on Aging, and trained volunteers, are essential in helping the health department reach out to adults 65 and older without internet access or with other barriers to schedule appointments. The remaining 1,200 open appointments of the 3,000 vaccination appointments available for this week will be scheduled for adults 65 and older in order to achieve this goal.

Those 65 and older who have not already pre-registered may complete the COVID-19 Vaccine Pre-Registration Form for Priority Group 1A and 1B on the [health department website](http://healthdepartment.org). Anyone with barriers to completing the online form may call 231-715-5557.

*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](http://nwhealth.org).*

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The Health Department of Northwest Michigan reported 21 new cases on Saturday, January 16: Antrim (6), Charlevoix (4), Emmet (8), and Otsego (3) counties, and 1 COVID-19 associated death in Charlevoix county. On Sunday, January 17, we reported 10 new cases: Antrim (4), Charlevoix (1), Emmet (4), and Otsego (1) counties. Today, January 18, we are reporting 12 new cases: Antrim (8), Charlevoix (1), Emmet (5), and Otsego (2) counties.

As of 4 p.m. today, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting:

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim (798), Charlevoix (939), Emmet (1,337), and Otsego (1,084).
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim (553), Charlevoix (760), Emmet (1,058) and Otsego (859).
- Confirmed COVID-19 associated deaths in the following counties: Antrim (18), Charlevoix (11), Emmet (33), and Otsego (25).

The State of Michigan is reporting 538,377 cases and 13,824 deaths.

Stay up to date on the latest information in the Health Department of Northwest Michigan 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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