As Memorial Day approaches, the unofficial beginning of summer, District Health Department No. 2 (DHD2) and District Health Department No. 4 (DHD4) would like to remind area residents that COVID-19 remains a threat to the health of communities served by both departments. In addition, we cannot assume that children are immune to this disease. Recently, both DHD2 and DHD4 have received pediatric COVID-19 cases in their jurisdiction. Pediatric cases are defined as individuals who test positive for COVID-19 and are 0-17 years old.

Denise Bryan, Health Officer for DHD2 and DHD4 states “Pediatric COVID-19 cases especially tug at our hearts. We are sending positive thoughts out to these families and hoping for a full recovery soon. This certainly is a reminder that COVID-19 doesn't discriminate. As we head into Memorial Day Weekend, we cannot forget the importance of protecting yourself and family members. Keep six feet physical distance, avoid playgrounds and pools. Don't let your guard down now.”

Medical Director for DHD4, Dr. Meyerson adds “These cases in children remind us that everyone is susceptible to this novel virus and we all must maintain our new way of interacting that limits spread of disease. Thankfully, most children with COVID-19 disease recover uneventfully, and we hope our youngest residents a full and speedy recovery.”

It is known that COVID-19 can spread rapidly at mass gatherings and in enclosed spaces. As you plan to enjoy the Memorial Day holiday weekend, please keep the following in mind:

- only leave home for essential needs and as infrequently as possible •
- limit the number of individuals who leave your home (designate one person to get groceries, pick up medicine, etc.)
- if you must go out, wear a mask, stay at least 6 feet away from others and avoid gatherings
- when recreating outdoors, maintain social distancing, do not congregate
- wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds
- avoid touching your face
- disinfect commonly touched surfaces
- check on others – by calling loved ones and neighbors who are most at risk to see how they are doing and if they need help

For more information on COVID-19 visit the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services website at www.michigan.gov/coronavirus, the DHD2 website at www.dhd2.org/COVID-19, or the DHD4 website at www.dhd4.org/covid19.

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