

This is intended to be delivered to all county commissioners and entered into public comment for the 9/9/21 Special Session of the BOC.

Aanii Commissioners:

Our family began to resume daily activities as the mandates loosened for Michiganders this summer. Most of the COVID-19 news and test rates declined and we felt a bit safer in our community and went about daily life without a mask. However, you cannot see the virus and it is in our community and our numbers within two weeks nearly doubled.

My entire family/household of six caught COVID-19, three of which are vaccinated on August 17, 2021. It was a complete shock to us all and the symptoms mirror that of allergies or a sinus infection with lost of taste and smell. It was a very scary time especially as parents, as our family became ill and self-isolated – it was very depressing. Our youngest child is four years old and as a mother, not knowing how this illness will transpire. My mother and my children's grandmother nearly cried for three days because you just don't know the outcome, would she lose our entire family... The thoughts behind the illness... to lose a loved one or an entire family are devastating. We loved our relative last October, so we knew how bad it could get.

We have all recovered and I cannot be happier to have my family well and alive. We will continue to wear a mask as a family because we've seen the affects of COVID-19, and the long-haul symptoms. If we didn't have the vaccine it could have been worst, is what we were told. One of us received the Monoclonal treatment at Munson Medical Center.

I wanted to share our story during your special session.

Be safe Leelanau County!

Miigwech,

Melissa Petoskey

Peshawbestown, MI