

HEALTHY CHICAGO

TRANSFORMING THE HEALTH OF OUR CITY

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

April 2013 **UPDATE**

Message From **The Commissioner**

Public health is not one government agency acting alone. Public health is an ongoing, sustainable partnership between residents, government, private companies and non-governmental organizations to ensure better health and well-being for all people. At CDPH, we understand that partnerships between these different groups and individuals are the only way real progress can be made, which is why every day we work to grow and strengthen meaningful partnerships, which will in turn provide the people of Chicago with greater opportunities.

During the month of March, we worked hard to increase and grow our partnerships. For example, we worked with our new partners from the GE Foundation to launch the *Keep Your Heart Healthy* initiative with our longtime partners at Northwestern University. We brought together sixteen diverse community leaders to form our new LGBT Health Advisory Council. Our work on Childhood Exposure to Violence Prevention and Awareness week includes federal partners from the National Safe Start Initiative and local community partners. We launched our spring PlayStreets with partners from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois and a number of leading community-based organizations. We continue to work with Chicago Public Schools to increase opportunities for our children through Learning Gardens. And we worked with a group of web developers at the Smart Chicago Collaborative to design and launch a new, innovative tool for residents to report possible food poisoning.

These examples are just the surface of the partnership work that we do every day. Every one of our 12 Healthy Chicago priorities requires ongoing partnerships in order to succeed. If you would like to join CDPH's efforts to make Chicago the healthiest city in the nation, email your idea to healthychicago@cityofchicago.org or visit our website at www.cityofchicago.org/health. And be sure to follow us on Twitter (@ChiPublicHealth) and follow us on Facebook for the latest updates and partnership opportunities.

I look forward to working together.

Sincerely,



Bechara Choucair, M.D.

HEALTHY CHICAGO PRIORITIES



Tobacco Use



Obesity Prevention



HIV Prevention



Adolescent Health



Cancer Disparities



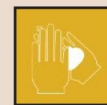
Heart Disease & Stroke



Access to Care



Healthy Mothers & Babies



Communicable Disease Control & Prevention



Healthy Homes



Violence Prevention



Public Health Infrastructure



www.CityofChicago.org/Health



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HEALTHY CHICAGO IMPLEMENTATION

- On March 20, Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Public Health Commissioner Bechara Choucair launched a city-wide Healthy Vending Challenge, asking organizations to change their current vending offerings to products lower in sugar, salt, and fat in alignment with the American Heart Association's healthy food procurement standards. Five organizations already indicated their plans to sign on to the Healthy Vending Challenge: Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, the Greater Chicago Food Depository, the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago, Vanguard Health System and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois. The Healthy Vending Challenge was created as part of Healthy Places, a partnership between the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children (CLOCC) that aims to promote health where Chicagoans live, work, learn, and play. Interested organizations can get more information and download a toolkit at www.CityofChicago.org/Health. **(Obesity Prevention, Heart Disease & Stroke)**
- CDPH and Walgreens were recently highlighted in a NACCHO report, *Building and Sustaining Strong Partnerships between Pharmacies and Health Departments at State and Local Levels*, for their public-private partnership during Vaccinate Chicago Week in December 2012. Chicago-area Walgreens pharmacies experienced a four-fold increase in flu vaccinations as a result of the collaboration. **(Communicable Disease Control & Prevention)**



Mayor Rahm Emanuel selects a snack. The Healthy Vending Challenge promotes healthy vending throughout Chicago.

- Last month, sixteen community leaders were appointed to the new Chicago Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Health Advisory Council by CDPH Health Commissioner Bechara Choucair. The new council will provide support and expertise to aid in the implementation of the city's LGBT Health Action Plan, which was launched by Mayor Rahm Emanuel in 2012. Members of the council are listed at <http://tinyurl.com/LGBT-Advisory-Council>. **(Multiple Priorities)**
- In order to provide more opportunities for people to communicate with CDPH, CDPH and the Smart Chicago Collaborative partnered to create a web app that identifies Tweets related to possible cases of food poisoning in Chicago. Users are then connected to the app's online form where they can initiate a formal complaint using the City's Open 311 system, triggering CDPH's food inspection team to conduct an investigation. **(Communicable Disease Control & Prevention, Public Health Infrastructure)**



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HEALTHY CHICAGO IMPLEMENTATION

- More than 100 public health commissioners and researchers met in Chicago for a special 3-day event hosted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO) to define strategies around the health of their communities. During the event, CDPH launched *Keep Your Heart Healthy*, an innovative program designed to identify Chicago residents most at risk for developing heart disease, and to work with those individuals to empower them to make life changes, reducing their risk moving forward. This initiative is a collaboration with Northwestern University, the Public Health Institute of Metropolitan Chicago and community partners and funded by a generous grant from the GE Foundation. The program will pilot in two Chicago neighborhoods later this year. **(Heart Disease and Stroke, Multiple Priorities)**



CDPH Office of Violence Prevention Director Marlita White



Mayor Rahm Emanuel speaks at an April prevention symposium held by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO).

- In order to increase awareness and reduce the impact of children's exposure to violence, Mayor Rahm Emanuel proclaimed April 15-19 Childhood Exposure to Violence (CEV) Prevention and Awareness Week. The campaign theme, *Every Person. Every Day.* emphasizes the important role that everyone plays in CEV prevention. For a listing of CEV week events, go to www.chicagosafestart.net. **(Violence Prevention)**
- Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Chicago Public Schools (CPS) CEO Barbara Byrd-Bennett announced that 80 Learning Gardens will be installed in schools this fall. The Learning Gardens are implemented by nonprofit organization The Kitchen [Community] (TKC), and provide students with hands on educational opportunities in science and nutrition. During last year's Learning Gardens pilot program, children increased their likeability of vegetables grown in the gardens by 50%. **(Obesity Prevention, Heart Disease & Stroke)**



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Healthy Chicago Grant Opportunity

- On April 9, the Department of Health and Human Services announced a federal grant opportunity for those interested in serving as navigators in states with federally-facilitated and State partnership exchanges. The application deadline is June 7, 2013. For more information, go to <http://tinyurl.com/brshow4>. **(Access to Care)**

Healthy Chicago Grant News

- CDPH received \$2,540,278 from IDPH for the State fiscal year 2014 continuation award of the Local Health Protection Grant. The funding in Chicago primarily supports Food Protection and Communicable Disease Control & Prevention efforts. **(Communicable Disease Control & Prevention)**

Getting The Word Out

- Access Community Health Network is hosting their 7th annual Pin-A-Sister Sunday event to promote breast health with hundreds of African-American and Hispanic churches around Illinois on May 12, 2013. Registration and materials are free. For information, contact Paulina Guzman, Manager, Faith and Community Programs at 312-526-2087 or by email at info@pinasister.com. **(Breast Cancer Disparities)**

Healthy Chicago Policy Highlights

On April 10, Mayor Rahm Emanuel and 49th Ward Alderman Joe Moore proposed a new law that aims to reduce the risk of exposure to dust and debris that may be contaminated with lead-based paint or asbestos. If passed, the ordinance would require that applicants for certain renovation permits or architectural cleaning permits certify under oath that they will comply with federal lead-safe training requirements and work practices when conducting work that may disturb lead paint. The rule applies to most construction trades. **(Healthy Homes)**

CDPH's LGBT Health Advisory Council submitted an open letter to members of the Illinois House of Representatives to make the public health argument for the Religious Freedom and Marriage Fairness Act providing marriage equality in Illinois. In the letter, the members of the Council provide evidence showing the connection between increased equality under the law and improved public health. The full letter can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/marriage-advocacy>. **(Multiple Priorities)**

To get involved in the Healthy Chicago movement email CDPH at HealthyChicago@cityofchicago.org.



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www.cityofchicago.org/health

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