

# Implementation Update

## March 2016



**HEALTHY  
CHICAGO**  
CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### Message From The Commissioner:

As you may remember, our 2016 budget included a proposal to transition HIV Primary Care services in Uptown and Englewood to qualified community partners. The reform is part of the city's commitment to delivering critical services for residents most in need, fulfilling a pledge made by Mayor Rahm Emanuel as part of his 2016 budget proposal.

After a thorough review process, we have identified the University of Illinois-Chicago (UIC) and Howard Brown Health to assume operations at Uptown and Englewood, respectively. In addition, both partners will launch linkage into care services for existing patients as well as newly-diagnosed residents at the two sites and UIC will expand primary care services for HIV-positive residents in South Chicago and Humboldt Park.

These partnerships will enable the city to expand primary care services for an additional 800 residents in need, increasing capacity to serve approximately 1,360 residents. Over the next few months our team will work closely with the two partner agencies to ensure a smooth transition for our patients with the expectation that the transition will be completed in May.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated CDPH staff members, past and present, who have done so much good work caring for our patients at these clinics. I am proud of the quality of care provided to our patients and am confident that the patients served by UIC and Howard Brown Health will receive the same high quality care.

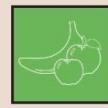
Sincerely,

Julie Morita, Commissioner

### 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](http://www.CityofChicago.org/Health)





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### Healthy Chicago Implementation

- At the start of the year, Mayor Emanuel introduced a [reform package](#) to curb tobacco use among youth in Chicago. The tobacco-control ordinance would protect young people by raising the age of sale for tobacco products from 18 to 21, taxing other tobacco products like cigars and chewing tobacco, and prohibiting the use of coupons and other discounts. The reforms build on previous efforts Chicago has made to reduce youth smoking and also expands taxation on tobacco across the city. And since the introduction of the package in January, and in anticipation of Chicago City Council's vote on the package on Wednesday, March 16, CDPH has been actively raising awareness and garnering support through collaboration and partnership with tobacco prevention and control advocates across Chicago and the nation. See the following paragraphs for more details. **Tobacco Prevention**
- CDPH joined national and local leaders from the [African American community](#) at Mercy Hospital as they announced support for the proposed tobacco-control ordinance. The advocates noted that African Americans in Chicago face disproportionately high rates of lung cancer, heart disease and other conditions due to long-term tobacco use as they called on the Chicago City Council to stand up to the tobacco industry and put the health of our youth first.  
**Tobacco Prevention**
- And just this week, a few [Chicago students](#) joined the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids and Alderman Joe Moreno at City Hall to call for passage of the tobacco-control ordinance. The gathering at City Hall also included representatives from a number of local and national organizations including the Mikva Challenge, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, Respiratory Health Association, the American Heart Association and Mercy Hospital. **Tobacco Prevention**



- March is National Nutrition Month and the theme for 2016 is "Savor the Flavor of Eating Right" and it encourages individuals to develop a mindful eating pattern that includes flavorful, nutritious foods. The CDPH Nutrition Services team is hosting a variety of events throughout March to help our clients and communities explore and expand their knowledge of food. There will be cooking demonstrations at many of our WIC sites using WIC-approved foods along with games and activities for the children. Fresh fruit and vegetable food sampling along with recipes will be provided. The remaining presentations will occur from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the following locations:



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Englewood WIC on Tuesday, March 22 and Friend/Family WIC on Tuesday, March 29. **Nutrition**

- CDPH is encouraging expectant mothers to schedule early and regular prenatal care visits to help ensure their children are born healthy and strong. As part of this effort, by the end of March CDPH will launch a new ad campaign promoting the importance of prenatal care to prevent congenital syphilis (CS) in babies, which has been on a steady rise both nationally and locally. CS occurs if a pregnant woman has an untreated or inadequately treated (not right antibiotics or right dosage) case of syphilis. CS can cause major health impacts like premature and low birth weight in infants, deformities and even stillbirths. To protect against CS, pregnant women should be tested for syphilis during their initial prenatal visit and again during the third trimester.

## Healthy Moms & Babies



**Pregnant?**  
Get Prenatal Care and Protect Your Baby from  
**Congenital Syphilis**  
Call 311 or visit [www.healthychicagobabies.org](http://www.healthychicagobabies.org)

- CPS announced that suspensions and expulsions dropped significantly during the 2014-2015 school year. During this period there has been a 65 percent drop in suspensions and a 57 percent decrease in expulsion. It is critical to keep youth in the classroom as much as possible, rather than removing them for disciplinary reasons, so that they don't lose out on valuable learning opportunities. In 2015, our Office of Violence Prevention supported capacity building in six delegate agencies operating restorative practice/justice programs that engage elementary aged youth

in seven Chicago Public Schools and one Charter School. You can view the press release by going to: <http://bit.ly/1PCroh8>. **Violence Prevention**

- CDPH is launching an assessment to evaluate the capacity of behavioral health services in Chicago. Agencies that provide services addressing mental health, substance abuse or violence will complete a questionnaire describing the types of services offered, number and type of staff employed and demographics of consumers served. Assessment results will inform CDPH of strengths and gaps in behavioral health service coverage. If you think your agency qualifies or if you know of agencies that provide services addressing mental health, violence or substance abuse, but would not show up on traditional resource lists, please email information to [capacityassessment@cityofchicago.org](mailto:capacityassessment@cityofchicago.org).

## Policy Updates

- Alderman Ed Burke introduced an ordinance in the City Council that would ban the use of tobacco at sporting events, including at baseball stadiums where players frequently use chewing tobacco. Tobacco control advocates hope the measure will keep athletes from setting a bad example for young fans.
- President Obama's proposed budget this year contains \$1.1 billion in funding to stop addiction to heroin and prescription painkillers. Meanwhile, Congress is considering legislation to allow Medicaid to fund residential treatment for substance abuse at facilities with more than 16 beds, which is now prohibited under Medicaid. Locally, the Joint Chicago-Cook Task Force on Heroin met this month to hear from experts on how to improve treatment, education, overdose reversal and other issues related to heroin use.



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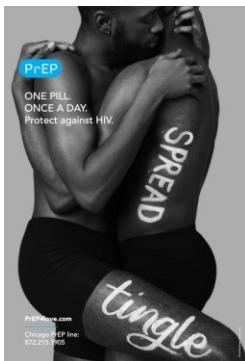


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- State Senators John Mulroe and Melinda Bush have introduced a bill in Springfield to raise the tobacco age to 21 statewide. The bill comes as Mayor Emanuel aims to pass this requirement, along with banning tobacco discounts and raising tobacco prices, in Chicago.

## Get the Word Out

- The Chicago PrEP Working Group (CPWG) launched PrEP4Love, a citywide, sex-positive media campaign designed to increase awareness of PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis), a daily HIV prevention pill for HIV-negative people. Dr. Ramona Bhatia represented CDPH on the working group and helped advise the campaign development. Ads throughout Chicago, on CTA trains and buses, and online feature honest, sex-positive photography underscored by a simple message — **“One pill. Once a day. Protect against HIV.”** The campaign pairs words often used when discussing HIV transmission like “spread,” “transmit,” “contract” and “catch” with the reasons we enjoy sex — things like love, desire and tingle.
- Mayor Rahm Emanuel has announced an initiative that will generate millions of dollars in new investment into underserved communities throughout Chicago. The proposal will reform an existing ordinance to allow developers to obtain additional square-footage for construction projects in the downtown area in exchange for investments to support neighborhoods in need of jobs and economic growth. The city’s current Zoning Bonus Ordinance enables additional square-footage in downtown development projects in exchange for provisions that



provide limited public benefit. The Mayor’s initiative will revamp the current system by eliminating outdated bonuses, closing loopholes and establishing a new funding source for economic development projects in underserved neighborhoods. Based on recent downtown construction trends the initiative could produce an estimated tens of millions of dollars in neighborhood improvements over the next several years. For more information, visit <http://ow.ly/YEYFo>.

- Mayor Emanuel has provided some great news for Chicago's Veterans, active duty military personnel and their families by announcing the launch of a new website specifically geared to serve them and provide information about many critical support services that are available including physical and mental health care. You can view this site at: <http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/fss/veterans.html>
- Loyola University is hosting a briefing on lead poisoning in Chicago and Cook County on April 4 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. RSVP is required and available via the following online form: <http://ow.ly/ZucJG>

## Healthy CPS

- Chicago Public Schools celebrated National School Breakfast Week with Chicago Bulls player Jimmy Butler on Wednesday, March 9. Butler hosted a basketball tournament and explained the importance of eating a healthy breakfast every day. Julian High School, Taft High School, Manley Career Academy and Kelly High School were recognized for their dedication to student health and wellness programs by participating in the tournament. Students learned how healthy eating contributed to Butler's success in the National Basketball Association (NBA). Special thanks to “No Kid Hungry” and Kellogg for supporting the event.

Get involved in the Healthy Chicago movement!

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