



Chicago Department of Public Health
Annual Report 2010





Message from the Mayor

Throughout Chicago's history, public health challenges have been faced and met- starting in 1835, when leaders of the Town of Chicago formed a Board of Health to confront a cholera outbreak.

In recent years, specifically the last two decades, other challenges have been met, with good news to report.

Child immunization levels have risen to all time highs, while infant mortality, tuberculosis, and levels of lead poisoning have fallen to all time lows.

Yet we know that in the 21st century, meeting the public health challenge is more complex than ever, with newly emerging diseases and conditions and with global travel making the world an ever smaller and more interconnected place.

These challenges are currently amplified by the nation's worst recession in 70 years – an economic climate that makes maximizing the effectiveness of our resources more important than ever. The Chicago Department of Public Health, like all city departments and sister agencies, does exactly that through strategic partnerships with the public and private sectors, aggressive pursuit of grant funding, and more.

The year 2010 was an exciting one for the Chicago Department of Public Health. Under the leadership of newly appointed Commissioner Bechara Choucair, M.D., the Department was re-energized with a sense of mission, innovation and results.

The highlights of CDPH's successes are found in this document. I encourage you to look them over, and I thank you for your interest in making Chicago a healthier place for everyone.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard M. Daley". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.



Message from the Commissioner

Public Health Then & Now

Just over a year ago, Mayor Richard M. Daley appointed me as the City of Chicago's Commissioner of Public Health. Since then I have learned that much like the City itself, the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) has a history of which to be proud. From effectively limiting the outbreak of cholera in the mid-1800's to H1N1 last year, CDPH has responded to myriad public health challenges. But challenges once overcome can re-emerge, requiring both our vigilance and more creative strategies for protecting the public's health. CDPH launched campaigns against infant mortality in the 1890's and again in the 1980's; although successful in the early 1900's, organized tuberculosis control efforts were required again in the 1990's.

As much as we need to maintain our core public health activities, we must also focus on new and emerging challenges which threaten the health of our communities. In Chicago, 22% of young children are obese, nearly 20% of adults smoke cigarettes, and 47.7 out of every 100,000 residents are diagnosed with HIV infection annually. And while we are pleased to see far fewer teenage girls becoming mothers than was the case 20 years ago, the teen birth rate in some neighborhoods is still over 50 per 1000.

Maintaining core public health activities and being at the forefront of battles against new and emerging conditions are our primary challenges. As you will read in this 2010 Annual Report, performance management and strategic partnerships enable us to do both of these things. CDPH is proud to be a part of a broader community; throughout our history, our collective capacity has resulted in our greatest public health successes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bechara Choucair'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial 'B'.

Bechara Choucair, M.D.

Organizational Highlights

Winnable Battles

CDPH initiated its Winnable Battles campaign targeting major causes of illness, injury and death, particularly those that increase health care costs.

Chicago's Winnable Battles include: obesity, tobacco, breast cancer disparities, teenage pregnancy, and HIV/AIDS.

2010 efforts focused both on laying the groundwork for implementable action plans and identifying resources to support these plans. These new resources include:

- \$11.5M to implement policies and practices to reduce smoking and the effects of exposure to smoke;
- CDPH and the Mayor's Office for Persons with Disabilities entered into a partnership to use grant funds to support the removal of lead hazards identified during efforts to make Chicago homes more accessible.
- \$19.7M to work with the Chicago Public Schools to prevent teen pregnancies;
- \$1.2M to support HIV prevention and testing, and to enhance surveillance efforts.

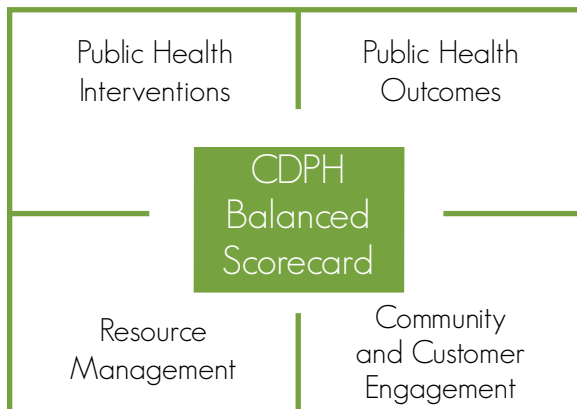
In 2011, CDPH will release a citywide public health agenda to serve as a blueprint for action. The five Winnable Battles will serve as the cornerstone of this agenda.

1876: The health functions of City government were organized under a department of health and the first health commissioner was appointed.

Organizational Highlights

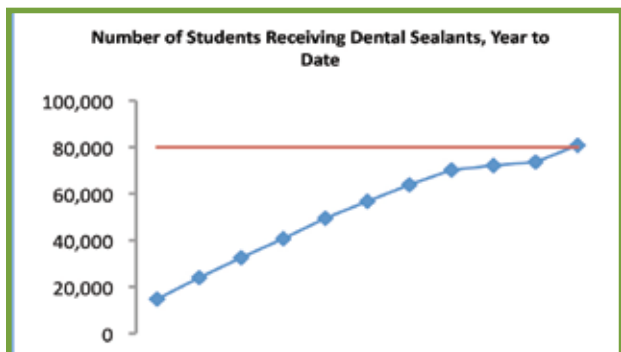
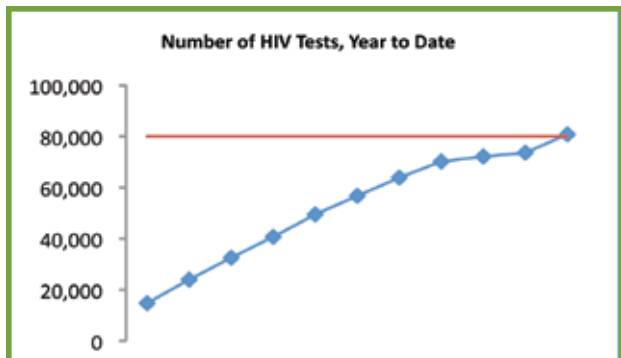
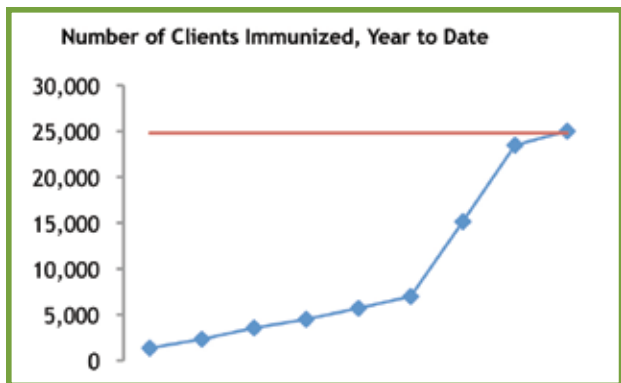
Performance Management

2010 marked the expansion of an organized performance management effort touching on all 29 CDPH programs. Using a balanced scorecard approach, programs are collectively reporting on 364 measures that reflect service delivery efforts and related outcomes.



CDPH leadership convenes weekly performance review sessions to identify and address barriers to performance. In 2011, these efforts will continue to sharpen our focus on quality improvement.

1898: A system of reporting births by postal cards was inaugurated and remained in effect for three years.



Organizational Highlights

Interdepartmental Partnerships

- CDPH and Chicago Public Schools joined forces to provide educational services and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) testing to over 2,000 students at seven high schools, with more planned for 2011.
- CDPH and the Mayor's Office for Persons with Disabilities entered into a partnership to use grant funds to support the removal of lead hazards identified during efforts to make Chicago homes more accessible.
- CDPH partnered with the Fire Department to develop a medical evacuation bus with the capacity to treat 130 people. The bus is now a resource in any hospital evacuation scenario, high-rise fire or other emergency.
- CDPH continued to chair the City's 10-agency Task Force on Childhood Obesity. 2010 efforts included the creation of wellness centers at Park District sites.
- CDPH sanitarians were deployed to the Department of Buildings and the Department of Business Affairs in an effort to streamline the licensing and permitting processes for new food establishments and also to improve overall food safety.
- CDPH is one of four City agencies serving, along with the Mayor's Office, on the Chicago Delegation for the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention convened by the U.S. Departments of Justice and Education.

1915: Dental services were initiated in the public schools, following a three-year privately-funded pilot program.

2010 By the Numbers



CDPH Reduces Environmental Hazards

Food Protection

- 16,187 food establishments were inspected.
- 10,000 persons were trained and certified to manage food service operations.

Lead Poisoning Prevention

- 100,942 children were screened for lead poisoning; 1,281 were found to have elevated blood lead levels.
- 9,499 lead hazard home inspections or re-inspections were conducted.

West Nile Virus

- 76 mosquito traps were monitored monthly throughout the summer to control for West Nile virus.
- 210,000 catch basins were treated with larvacide.
- 21,885 mosquitos were tested for West Nile Virus.

Other Inspections

- 841 swimming pool and spa inspections were conducted.
- 36 body art/tattoo establishments and 18 tanning facilities were inspected.

Celebrating our Successes

- CDPH implemented a computerized reporting system for the inspection of restaurants and other food establishments, thereby improving the efficiency, quality and consistency of inspections.
- Less than 1.5% of children screened for elevated blood lead levels were found to be lead poisoned – Chicago's lowest rate ever.

1906: City Council passed an ordinance for the licensing and control of restaurants; a comprehensive food ordinance was adopted in 1948.

CDPH Prevents Communicable Diseases

Immunizations

- 8,787 children were immunized through CDPH Fast Track and Care Van programs.
- 1,200,000 doses of vaccine were distributed to Chicago providers.
- 9,951 vaccinations were administered through our adult immunization program.

Sexually Transmitted Infections and HIV/AIDS

- 23,627 patients were seen at CDPH STI clinics.
- CDPH and its funded agencies provided 80,799 HIV tests.
- 55,745 days of residential housing were provided to persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Tuberculosis Control

- 161 cases of active TB were diagnosed in 2010, a nearly 20% reduction from the 202 cases diagnosed in 2009.
- 4,503 TB clinic patient visits were provided at CDPH sites.

Communicable Disease Control

- 5,246 notifiable infectious disease cases were received.
- 31 infectious disease outbreaks and other urgent infectious disease situations were investigated.

Celebrating our Successes

- In August, CDPH distributed the last doses of pandemic H1N1 influenza vaccine to Chicago area providers, marking the end of a highly coordinated response that began in 2009. In total, CDPH managed over 1.1 million doses of H1N1 vaccine and directly administered vaccine to 101,690 people at CDPH-operated clinics.

1918: Influenza became a reportable disease with the pandemic reaching Chicago. On one single day, 381 deaths occurred.

CDPH Assures Access to Health Services

Primary Care

- 84,785 primary health care visits were provided to 29,002 patients at CDPH health centers.
- 33,882 outpatient medical care visits were provided by CDPH and our delegate agencies to persons living with HIV.

Women & Children's Health

- 16,682 home visits were conducted by public health nurses.
- 12,769 pregnant women and 14,458 infants received case management services.
- An average of 37,735 persons per month were provided with WIC supplemental food and nutrition education services.

Oral Health

- 100,465 students at 533 schools received dental services.

Mental Health Care

- 78,456 mental health visits were provided to 6,389 patients.
- Provider productivity across all sites increased by 15%.

Celebrating our Successes

- CDPH received the highest mental health accreditation possible, with reviewers noting “an established pattern of practice excellence.”
- CDPH and CPS worked together to increase the parental consent rate for dental services. This effort resulted in a near doubling of the number of public school students who received oral health services in 2010.

1925: The Health Department instituted a regular schedule of home visits by nurses during the first six months in infants' lives.

CDPH Promotes Healthy Communities

Chronic Disease

- 940 diabetes and cardiovascular disease risk assessments were conducted through the REACH program.
- 665 persons received smoking cessation interventions.
- 920 healthy lifestyles fitness classes were conducted.

Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention

- 32,772 days of substance abuse treatment were provided to 2,258 persons by CDPH-funded providers.
- 1,522 persons received violence prevention training at 81 sessions.
- 70 Police Department employees, including Domestic Violence Liaisons from each District, received Psychological First Aid training.

CDPH Responds to Public Health Threats

Public Health Preparedness

- 40 hospitals participated in eight exercises designed to test emergency response capabilities and provide mechanisms for improved operations.
- Over 25,000 pounds of medications, personal protective equipment and other medical assets were received, re-packaged and distributed to 40 hospitals in support of a comprehensive H1N1 response.
- 9 city, state and regional exercises were conducted with City personnel and other public health partners as part of ongoing efforts to strengthen the Chicago's emergency response capacity.

1998: The Health Department released the Chicago Violence Prevention Strategic Plan; the first of its scope in the nation.

CDPH Budget

Support for Chicago Department of Public Health services is derived from four primary sources: the City of Chicago's Corporate Fund, State and Federal grants, the Community Development Block Grant, and revenue received from patient services, fees and fines.

In 2010, the Department's budget totaled \$182,209,947.

