

# Implementation Update

## January 2014



# HEALTHY CHICAGO

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### Message From **The Commissioner**

As any Chicago resident will tell you, winter is here. Earlier this month our city was hit by a one-two punch of record snowfall followed immediately by sub-zero temperatures. While most residents stayed at home to cope with the extreme weather, the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) staff was working hard ensuring the health and safety of our residents.

Our Emergency Preparedness team responded immediately, working with the City's Office of Emergency Management and Communications as part of Chicago's response. We coordinated with local hospitals, monitoring number of cold-related visits and open beds, ready to respond to any instances of overcrowding or weather-related closures. In addition, we remained in constant contact with the County Medical Examiner and other local health agencies ensuring a coordinated response at all levels of government. As part of the City's commitment to serve our residents, all CDPH facilities remained open and operational throughout the duration of the weather. We also worked hard to reach residents directly, through television and radio appearances, social media and our own website, reminding everyone to take precaution and sharing CDPH Winter Weather Preparedness Tips, which are available on our website at [www.cityofchicago.org/health](http://www.cityofchicago.org/health).

Thanks to the commitment and hard work of our entire team, Chicago was prepared to handle this crisis. Furthermore, we are prepared for the next time extreme weather hits, ensuring the safety and well-being of all our residents.

Sincerely,

Bechara Choucair, M.D.

### HEALTHY CHICAGO PRIORITIES



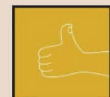
Tobacco Use



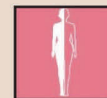
Obesity  
Prevention



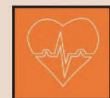
HIV  
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Adolescent  
Health



Cancer  
Disparities



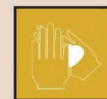
Heart Disease  
& Stroke



Access to  
Care



Healthy  
Mothers &  
Babies



Communicable  
Disease Control  
& Prevention



Healthy  
Homes



Violence  
Prevention

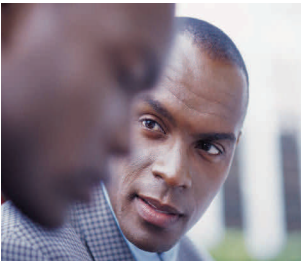


Public Health  
Infrastructure



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





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## Healthy Chicago Implementation

- The University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System was awarded a \$4 million contract by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute to coordinate a multi-center trial on asthma treatment in minority children. Called the Coordinated Healthcare Interventions for Childhood Asthma Gaps in Outcomes Trial (CHICAGO Trial), the effectiveness of two interventions among children ages 5 to 11 who visit the emergency department (ED) with uncontrolled asthma will be compared. The first intervention provides ED physicians with decision support tools to assist in prescribing medications, and the second involves Community Health Worker (CHW) home visits to reduce environmental asthma triggers. The project will include researchers from UI Health, Sinai Health System, the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, University of Chicago Medicine, Rush University Medical Center, John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County, NorthShore University Health System and Northwestern University. CDPH will support the CHICAGO Trial by training CHWs and by developing a referral and follow-up protocol. Other trial partners are the Respiratory Health Association, Chicago Asthma Consortium, the IIT Institute of Design, Illinois Emergency Department Asthma Surveillance Program and the NIH/NCATS Clinical and Translational Science Award Chicago Consortium. [Healthy Homes](#)
- With the help of the Human and Community Development Working Committee, CMAP held a workshop, *Making the Connection: Community Health, Land Use, and Transportation Planning* on Monday, December 9, 2013. Nearly 50 County and City of Chicago officials representing public health, planning, and transportation departments gathered to discuss coordination and better understand how CMAP can integrate these efforts into local planning. More information about the workshop is available at <http://tinyurl.com/n2jkyul>. [Multiple Priorities](#)
- Plans for a new arts and recreation center at Ellis Park were announced in December. The City of Chicago is leading the development and financing for a proposed 30,000-square foot, \$16 million facility that will serve the greater Oakland, Douglas and Bronzeville communities. Funding sources include the Chicago Housing Authority, TIF funds and New Market Tax Credits. The site, approximately five acres in size, will include a full-size gymnasium with two basketball courts, an indoor pool, art and education club rooms, a fitness center and studio, meeting hall and music and theater performance spaces. Land assembly and design would be completed by fall 2014. Construction is projected to begin next fall and to be completed by the end of 2015. [Obesity Prevention](#)
- This month, CDPH released its 2013 HIV/STI Surveillance Report. The report highlights trends among those living with HIV and STIs in the city, including HIV Continuum of Care statistics, which are new to the report this year. The HIV Continuum of Care describes the stages of care at which persons living with HIV are in as they move from an initial diagnosis, to prompt linkage to HIV medical care, staying in care and ultimately, achieving and maintaining an undetectable viral load. Tracking this data allows CDPH to monitor gaps between stages and in turn help HIV prevention and care partners prioritize efforts to move individuals towards the goal of viral suppression. For the first time, CDPH is also reporting HIV and AIDS surveillance data for transgender persons as a part of this report. To read the report, go to [www.CityofChicago.org/Health](http://www.CityofChicago.org/Health). [HIV Prevention](#)
- Supported by a \$1 million grant from the Chicago Community Trust, Sinai Community Health Institute is launching the second Sinai Community Health Survey. The survey will provide data on the health of individuals in selected communities. The survey results may provide information that leads to changes in health programs and resources. [Public Health Infrastructure](#)



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



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## Getting the Word Out

- The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Medical Home for Children Exposed to Violence is hosting a webinar, *Treating Violence as a Contagious Disease: The Role of the Health Care Provider*, featuring Dr. Gary Slutkin, the Executive Director of Cure Violence and professor of epidemiology and international health. The webinar takes place on Thursday, January 23, 2014 from 12:00PM-1:00PM CST. To register, go to <http://tinyurl.com/qjhedl6>. **Violence Prevention**
- January is National Radon Action Month and CDPH is encouraging Chicagoans to test their home for harmful levels of radon. Radon is a natural colorless, odorless radioactive gas and is the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. The best time to test homes for radon is during the cold-weather months when windows are shut and elevated levels of radon are more likely to be detected. More information on how to test, find a qualified radon professional, obtain a test kit or contact your state radon office is available at <http://www.epa.gov/radon> or by calling the Cook County Radon Hot Line at (708) 865-6177. **Healthy Homes**
- Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Divvy, Chicago's bike-share system, launched a new website to solicit suggestions and feedback from Chicagoans on the locations for the 175 new Divvy stations scheduled to be added to the system in 2014. On the website [suggest.divvybikes.com](http://suggest.divvybikes.com), Chicagoans can make suggestions for locations and provide feedback on site suggestions others have made. There are currently 300 Divvy stations located across Chicago. **Obesity Prevention**

## Healthy Chicago Policy Highlights

- Over the last two months, the City has been addressing environmental health on the City's southeast side. In November, the City of Chicago and Attorney General Lisa Madigan filed suit against Beemsterboer Slag Corp. after the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's inspections revealed that petroleum coke and metallurgical coke were stored in the open and exposed to the elements without structures to keep the materials from blowing into nearby neighborhoods. In December, Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Attorney General Lisa Madigan announced steps to protect residents from petroleum coke and metallurgical coke dust. Mayor Emanuel introduced municipal regulations for bulk material storage facilities. The draft regulations are posted for public comment until January 24, and can be viewed at <http://tinyurl.com/ofnppfl>. Comments can be submitted to [petcokecomments@cityofchicago.org](mailto:petcokecomments@cityofchicago.org). Pet coke is the by-product of petroleum refining, and met coke is produced by subjecting bituminous coal to extremely high temperatures to produce a fuel used in the iron and steel industries. Inhaling pet coke can contribute to serious respiratory health problems. The health effects of met coke are similar. Additionally, met coke is believed to be a toxic agent and a carcinogen. **Healthy Homes, Cancer Disparities**
- On January 13, the Joint Committees of Finance and Health and Environmental Protection passed a proposed ordinance to (1) ban the sale of e-cigarettes to minors, (2) prohibit the use of e-cigarettes in restaurants, theatres, and everywhere cigarettes are currently banned under Chicago's Clean Indoor Air Ordinance, (3) require e-cigarette dealers to be licensed, and (4) move e-cigarettes from in front of the counter to behind the counter. E-cigarettes will be defined as "tobacco products." These regulations could help to reduce the number of youth that start using tobacco products. The full City Council will vote on the ordinance on January 15. **Tobacco Use**



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## Healthy Chicago Public Schools

### Obesity Prevention

- 14 Wellness Champions were selected for the first annual Wellness Champion Leadership Team.
- The Chicago Blackhawks donated hockey equipment and a clinic to students attending 25 of the 30+20+10 pilot schools.
- 26 schools launched the FoodShare program in which leftover produce from the school food program is provided to local pantries for families in need.
- To date, 559 schools have utilized the Health Education curriculum resource HealthTeacher.com.
- The Office of Student Health and Wellness (OSHW) continues to work with the Green Teacher Network to develop GrowWELL, a professional development series for School Garden Managers.
- CPS developed a bottle washing schedule and process protocol with the water access pilot schools. OSHW is currently working on a sustainability plan and best practices to share with schools interested in conducting a similar program.

### Access to Care

- The new stock of District-Issued Epi-Pens was distributed to schools. A supporting Food Allergy and District-Issued Epi-Pen Initiative (DI-Epi-Pen) webinar was developed and posted for required viewing by all Principals and School Nurses.
- Filmed a video to promote the Vision Examination Program. The video included testimonials from parents, teachers, students, school administrators, and providers, as well as leadership from CPS and CDPH. The video will be released in early 2014 and promoted to school staff, parents and community partners.

### HIV Prevention

- Launched the online Sexual Health Education Training course. This online course includes nine self-paced modules that provide teachers with the road map for teaching sexual health education to students in grades K-12. Over 70 teachers have registered for the online training.
- Twenty-one schools have registered to participate in the STI Education, Testing and Treatment Project.

### School Health Infrastructure

- Convened an OSHW Research Partner Meeting in conjunction with Northwestern University. Over 70 attendees received an overview of OSHW research priorities and learned about the CPS RRB process.
- Convened the Health and Wellness Materials Review Committee and approved four partners to provide health and wellness programs and curriculum to schools.
- Finalized Chicago Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) to be disseminated to schools in January. The Chicago IYS survey aligns with Healthy CPS priorities and will provide data to support program development and evaluation efforts.

Get involved in the Healthy Chicago movement!

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