# **Implementation Update** January 2016



CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Happy New Year Healthy Chicago Stakeholders,

The work that was accomplished by CDPH staff and programs in 2015 is a source of great pride for me. Below are few highlights of our success.

- Smoking rates among Chicago teens are at historic lows.
- New HIV infections in the city decreased for the 13<sup>th</sup> year in a row.
- HPV vaccine coverage levels are higher than the national average.
- CDPH's school-based vision, dental, STI prevention and restorative practice programs are serving thousands of students.
- We successfully piloted a new model to identify restaurants more likely to have serious violations.
- CDPH coordinated several multi-program responses to public health threats including a meningococcal disease outbreak among MSM, a cluster of opioid overdoses and a gasoline leak on Chicago's West Side
- CDPH published the results from the first Healthy Chicago survey.
- New, innovative mental health and support programs were launched for vulnerable residents such as victims of sexual assault and family members of homicide victims.
- Several new grants allowed us to expand our work.
- The Cultural Leadership Team was formed to improve workplace culture.
- We filled nearly 70 vacancies including many frontline/field staff and supervisors and managers.
- We secured a departmental budget that is aligned with our strategic plan.

I am really looking forward to launching Healthy Chicago 2.0 this year. Through this four-year public health plan for the City and our ongoing activities, CDPH and our partners will have the opportunity to coordinate and implement numerous initiatives that will help create thriving communities and improve the health and well-being of Chicagoans throughout the city. Let's keep the momentum going and make 2016 the best year yet!

Sincerely,

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Julie Morita, Commissioner







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## **Healthy Chicago Implementation**

January is National Radon Action Month and CDPH is encouraging Chicagoans to test their homes for harmful levels of radon. Radon is a naturally-occurring colorless, odorless radioactive gas and is the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. In fact, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that radon causes more than 20,000 deaths from lung cancer each year. The best time to test homes for radon is during cold-weather months when windows are shut and elevated levels of radon are more likely to be detected. You can't see, smell or taste radon, but it could be present at a dangerous level in your home. CDPH recommends taking action to fix radon levels at or above 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/L). In most cases, a system with a vent pipe and fan is used to reduce radon. Information on how to test, find a gualified radon professional or obtain a test kit is available at http://www.epa.gov/radon or by calling the Cook County Radon Hot Line at (708) 865-6177. **Environmental Health** 



At the end of 2015, CDPH launched "Vaping," a new public education campaign dedicated to informing youth and families about the health risks associated with using e-cigarettes. The campaign highlights areas of concern regarding the highly addictive nature of nicotine, the toxic chemicals and poisons found in eliquids and vaping devices such as e-cigarettes being unregulated at the federal level. According to a new CDC Vital Signs report, more than 18 million young people see e-cigarette advertising in stores, online, in newspapers and magazines, or on television and in movies. In addition, the report states that e-cigarette ads use many of the same themes - independence, rebellion and sex - used to sell cigarettes and other conventional tobacco products. Spending on ecigarette advertising rose from \$6.4 million in 2011 to an estimated \$115 million in 2014. In 2014, ecigarettes became the most commonly used tobacco product among youth, surpassing conventional cigarettes. The full report is available online at http:// www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/ecigarette-ads/index.html. **Tobacco Prevention** 







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 In the race for the White House's <u>Healthy</u> <u>Communities Challenge</u>, CDPH is leading the charge in Chicago and hosting enrollment events and health fairs in communities across the city. Visit the following events happening this month: January 23 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Camras Elementary School, 3000 North Mango Avenue, Chicago, IL 60634; January 25 from 2-8 p.m. and January 29-31 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Presence Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center, 2233 West Division Avenue (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor), Chicago, IL 60622. Follow <u>#GetCoveredChicago</u> on Twitter for updates.

### Get the Word Out

- January is Cervical Health Awareness Month and the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (IBCCP) provides free cervical cancer screenings, pelvic exams, diagnostic services and referrals to uninsured and under insured Illinois women 35 years and older, regardless of income. In 2015, IBCCP identified 290 cervical abnormalities with 16 cervical cancers and, over the past five years, identified 170 cases of cervical cancer. Call the health line at 1-888-522-1282 for more information. In addition, HPV vaccines prevent cervical cancer and are recommended for all boys and girls at 11-12 years of age. No-cost vaccines are available to children under 19 years of age at CDPH clinics. To find a nearby CDPH clinic, call 3-1-1 or search the term "Fast-Track Clinics" at www.CityofChicago.org/Health.
- The American Diabetes Association of Illinois has launched a Venture to Stop Diabetes Challenge, inviting innovators and entrepreneurs to develop new strategies and technology that address the problems facing the diabetes community today. Submissions will be accepted on a rolling basis until 5 p.m. CST on

Monday, February 15, 2016. For more information, visit <u>http://ow.ly/X7IMb</u>.

- University of Chicago Medicine has announced plans to build a Level 1 trauma center on its campus to help increase health care access on Chicago's South Side. Read the full news release online at <u>http://</u> <u>www.uchospitals.edu/news/trauma/</u>.
- CVS Health announced this month that it will share electronic patient data from its in-store health clinics with University of Chicago Medicine. The deal is the latest attempt to ease concerns that patients will get lower-quality care when they substitute walk-in retail care like that practiced at CVS's 44 Chicago-area Minute Clinics for traditional primary medical care from a family doctor. Learn more at <u>http://</u> www.uchospitals.edu/pdf/uch\_045933.pdf.
- If you or someone you know is without shelter or heat

in these cold temperatures, please call 3-1-1 for assistance. The Chicago Heat Ordinance mandates that during cold weather months landlords supply heat to rental units or to any unit where owners do not have individual control of the heat. From



September 15 to June 1, the temperature inside a



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rental residence is required to be at least 68 degrees from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. and at least 66 degrees from 10:30 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. If you are a renter and your landlord is not providing adequate heat or no heat at all, please call 3-1-1.

### **Policy Updates**

 In December, the City Council passed a measure to double the penalties for retail tobacco dealers who sell illegal cigarettes. All cigarette packs should have tax stamps from the city, county and state to verify that taxes are being paid. But some business owners have been failing to comply with the law. The new ordinance increases fines from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for a first offense and from \$2,000 to \$4,000 for subsequent offenses. If more than 40 unstamped packs are found, fines are even higher. Repeat offenders also face revocation of their tobacco license and a one-year tobacco sales ban.



 The Chicago-Cook Task Force on Heroin is set to have its first meeting this month. CDPH is participating in the task force and will contribute to the understanding of the heroin epidemic as a public health problem. The task force will be meeting periodically in the coming months to craft policy recommendations for the city and county to reduce opioid use disorder and overdoses. Mayor Emanuel has introduced a groundbreaking tobacco reform package in City Council to curb tobacco use among youth and young adults. The ordinance would raise the tobacco purchasing age from 18 to 21, impose taxes on cigars and other products beyond cigarettes and ban discounts that tobacco companies use to skirt high taxes. These reforms will help today's youth make healthy choices and refrain from the potentially deadly effects of a tobacco habit. The new taxes will also generate more than \$6 million in revenue to establish a universal summer orientation program for all incoming freshman at CPS schools.

#### **Healthy CPS**

- CPS Active Schools will be participating in the Toews Fitness challenge in the month of February. Building on last year's successful partnership, the Chicago Blackhawks are providing materials to schools to facilitate the month –long challenge in which classrooms focus on a different aspect of physical fitness and healthy eating each week. Participating classrooms are recognized for their efforts at the end of the challenge.
- Students are becoming more involved with the CPS Nutrition Support Services Menu Selection process. Student groups at five schools have participated in food tastings and provided their feedback on possible new menu items.
  Beginning January 18, 2016 all CPS high school students will be given the opportunity to provide their feedback individually through district-wide Student View Point Survey. The survey asks specific questions about their thoughts on the school lunch program.

Get involved in the Healthy Chicago movement!

Email us at HealthyChicago@cityofchicago.org Like us at www.facebook.com/healthychicago Follow us on Twitter @ChiPublicHealth