

**Meeting Summary of the Regular Meeting of
The Chicago Board of Health
CDPH Board Room, 2nd Floor
DePaul Center, 333 South State Street
Wednesday, May 21, 2014**

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Carolyn C. Lopez, M.D., President
Caswell A Evans, Jr., D.D.S., M.P.H.
Victor Gonzalez
Steven K. Rothschild, M.D.
Horace E. Smith, M.D.
Joseph B. Starshak

Board Members Absent:

Carl C. Bell, M.D.
Adele Joy Cobbs, M.D.
Melanie Dreher, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N.

For the Department:

Bechara Choucair, M.D., Commissioner

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
May 21, 2014
DePaul Center, 333 S. State Street
Meeting Summary

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:09 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: The Board approved the minutes from the April 16, 2014 Board meeting.

Commissioner's Report and Healthy Chicago Update: Commissioner Bechara Choucair, M.D. provided an update on the following items:

- The Department was honored to host two esteemed health leaders, CDC Director Dr. Tom Frieden and Dr. Howard K. Koh, HHS Assistant Secretary for Health, this month. Dr. Frieden spent almost a full day with CDPH, including spending time with tobacco partners, at events at University of Illinois at Chicago, and time with CDPH staff. Dr. Koh spent the afternoon with CDPH leadership as well as with tobacco partners.
- Chicago is now one of the first big cities in the nation to include electronic cigarettes in the Clean Indoor Air Act. In Chicago, smoking e-cigarettes cannot happen where the City's smokefree law prohibits smoking. Signs have placed in outdoor areas to notify the public. The clean indoor air provisions of the recent e-Cigarette ordinance went into effect on April 29. Just two days later, on May 1, Dr. Choucair joined several health commissioners from other big cities in Washington D.C. for a Hill briefing on e-cigarettes. The Department is leading policy change at a national level.
- The Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS) and the Mayor's Office have increased the Double Value Coupon Program (DVCP) this season to 30 Farmer's Markets citywide. The Double Value Coupon Program provides an incentive for LINK customers to purchase healthy food by providing matching funds for all purchases made with LINK cards. The program has increased LINK sales at Chicago Farmers' Markets during the past three years the program has been in place, vastly improving access to healthy food in at-risk communities.
- As part of our ongoing commitment to improve the health, safety and well-being of Chicago residents, CDPH just announced that more than \$1.4 million is available to fund local organizations through the City of Chicago's Community Development Block Grant Program. Non-profits can apply for funding in five program areas including crisis intervention project, HIV/AIDS housing, STI/HIV education and screening for adolescents and young adults, violence prevention initiatives and mental health services for child and adolescent victims of sexual assault. Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 31, 2014.
- Last May, the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) made international headlines with unexpected images of pregnant teen boys. Now CDPH has new ads that display an image of an adolescent dad with a large, out of proportion-sized baby - reminding all teens that parenting is a very 'big' responsibility. The ads are placed at bus shelters. CDPH hopes these ads will spark conversations about the responsibilities and burdens that come with parenting, which will in turn encourage more teens to make healthier, smarter choices today.
- The Commissioner noted that the May Healthy Chicago Update and policy brief are in Board member packets.

Comments from Board President: Dr. Carolyn Lopez, MD noted that several Board members attended the meeting with Dr. Koh and tobacco partners. She said that it was interesting to hear about the FDA's struggles in taking action on tobacco, and recognizes that the FDA needs to have cities such as Chicago behind them, just as the City needs the FDA. Dr. Lopez encouraged everyone, both

individuals and institutions to submit comments to the FDA on the proposed e-cigarette rules. The Department and Dr. Lopez will be submitting comments. She said it was important to have many voices involved on this issue. Dr. Choucair noted that when CDPH first introduced the e-cigarette ordinance, the Chicago Tribune didn't think there was enough data on this issue, but they recently made a 180 degree turn, and the conversation has shifted. Dr. Evans added that the matter has become more complicated by research showing that e-cigarettes may be helping to people transitioning from tobacco smoking. Dr. Lopez said that this is why it is even more important for Board members to speak out now that they have the opportunity. Right now there is much public discourse on the topic, which is good. People can discuss the fact that nicotine itself is toxic and highly addictive. While there have been important accomplishments, there is more to do. Dr. Rothschild asked how much longer the public could submit comments to the FDA, and Kendall Stagg responded that they are likely to extend the comment period another 75 days, and there is currently 45 more days. Dr. Stagg will email the group with more information.

Policy/Legislative Update: Kendall Stagg, Director of Policy, reported on the following:

- Just two weeks after the Hill briefing, the Senate held their first hearing ever on e-cigarettes, the content of which included safety and the lack of restrictions on ads and flavors to children. This has truly become a national dialogue.
- The State's FY15 budget remains in flux. Proposals to address the state's budget woes include (1) extending the temporary income tax, (2) making large cuts across the board and (3) keeping the budget status quo. In the culminating weeks of May, a final outcome will be determined which will be shared at the Board's June meeting.
- An unprecedented level of legislation was introduced this year that has implications on food safety. Our interests have fared very well.
- The City is in the process of updating Statements of Economic Interest. Board members must file separate statements for the City and County.

Presentation: Women and Children's Health: Susan Hossli, RN, MSN, Assistant Commissioner presented an overview of the Women and Children's Health (WCH) program and discussed the program's future plans. Susan Hossli has been Assistant Commissioner of the WCH program since November.

- The program includes Nursing and Support Services (High Risk Infant Followup, Family Case Management, Healthy Start, and Healthy Families) and Nutrition Services (WIC). There are 16 different sites where services are provided across the city.
- Maternal and Child Health (MCH) initiatives include the transition of MCH programs from Illinois Department of Human Services to Illinois Department of Public Health, the Maternal Child Health Block Grant (Title V) statewide needs assessment, Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (COIIN) projects, MCH Workforce Development Grant project and the Campaign to Save Our Mothers and Babies.
- Priorities for 2014 include the identification of the WCH Division evidence-based performance measures, the development of a quality improvement committee, implementing an evidence-based home visiting model, improving service coordination with other CDPH programs, conducting a city-wide MCH needs assessment in coordination with IDPH for the Title IV needs assessment and the development of a MCH five year strategic plan.

Dr. Choucair commented on the need for a concerted effort to address the plateau in infant mortality. Dr. Rothschild asked about the reasons for the differences in the MCH populations receiving services and the

possibility of a more targeted approach. Susan Hossli responded that the needs assessment she is undertaking will help to address this. Twenty-six communities account for 57% of infant mortality, and the vast majority are African American communities. Dr. Smith commented that this is due to poverty. Until poverty is tackled, things will not change. Susan Hossli added that it is also education; infant mortality rates are higher in families with lower levels of education. Dr. Smith noted that it takes time to close that gap.

Dr. Choucair said that Healthy Chicago 2.0 is being planned with a health equity lens. The importance of current data was also discussed, as infant mortality data is from 2009. Dr. Choucair said that data availability has been on the agenda of every meeting he has had with Dr. Hasbrouck. Dr. Evans commented that the state health improvement plan also addresses this.

The importance of groups working toward common goals was discussed. Dr. Choucair said this has been true for tobacco. Once an umbrella is created and a plan is developed that everyone agrees upon, change can happen. Dr. Rothschild stated that VNA and Fry have done convening and helped get people to the table, and it might be worth talking to them.

There was a question about the reporting of births, which are reported within 48 hours by state mandate. Dr. Rothschild noted that it would be ideal to visit women while they are still in the hospital. Dr. Choucair said he liked the idea of working directly with hospitals. He said CDPH must step up and be bold about our infant mortality targets and the reallocation of resources.

Dr. Gonzalez stated that a private foundation could FOIA birth certificate data and publish a report as a way of getting data sooner. Dr. Lopez stated that the ACLU doesn't know the unintended consequences of their law suit that affected data reporting 15 years ago. Susan said they are looking at the consent decree to determine if they can fight it. Dr. Gonzalez said that it is time for a review of this policy. Dr. Rothschild mentioned that Capricorn is another data resource. Jay Bhatt and Matt Roberts sit on the Capricorn steering committee. Dr. Lopez suggested that Susan Hossli update the Board on these issues. Susan Hossli suggested a fall update. Dr. Lopez said she will push these data release issues with the State Board of Health. Dr. Choucair said he will follow-up with Kendall Stagg.

New Business: None

Old Business: None

Public Comment: Badonna Reingold discussed the issue of the Medicaid expansion and CDPH mental health clinics. She said that patients are returning to their providers but can't get services there anymore, and asked what CDPH's plans were regarding entering a network. Dr. Choucair stated that CDPH is still looking at the pros and cons and numbers. They will be issuing an update to the Fall 2013 report. CDPH is working with staff to make sure no one is turned away. Badonna Reingold asked when CDPH will make a decision. Dr. Choucair stated that County Care has been very active in enrolling people in jail, and CDPH is supportive of these efforts. Badonna Reingold said that there is a shortage of mental health services on the South and West sides. Dr. Choucair said CDPH is encouraging County Care and Illini Health to expand. Because of the Medicaid expansion, 60% of the eligible pool has coverage.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Next Board Meeting: June 18, 2014, 9:00 a.m.