

Chicago Board of Health
Meeting Summary: June 19, 2019
DePaul Center, 333 South State Street

Roll Call

Board Members Present

Carolyn C. Lopez, M.D., President
Melanie Dreher, RN, PhD.
Caswell A. Evans, Jr., DDS, MPH
Victor M. Gonzalez
Steven Rothschild, M.D.
Horace E. Smith, M.D.
Joseph B. Starshak

Board Members Absent

Juan M. Calderon
Adele Joy Cobbs, M.D

For the Department

Allison Arwady, M.D., Acting Commissioner

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Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: May 15, 2019 minutes were unanimously approved.

Commissioner's Update: Allison Arwady, M.D., Acting Commissioner provided the following updates: She has agreed to serve as acting commissioner for CDPH while the new administration conducts a national search for Dr. Morita's replacement. Dr. Arwady has served as the Chief Medical Officer for CDPH since 2015, where she oversees activities in the Health Protection (Communicable Disease, Immunization, Tuberculosis, Environmental Health) and Behavioral Health (Substance Use, Mental Health and Violence Prevention) bureaus. She is excited to take on this new role and is looking forward to the opportunity of working collaboratively with this board on public health initiatives.

Healthy Chicago 2025: Over the past few years, Healthy Chicago 2.0 has been embraced by partners citywide to improve health every day, as we focus on delivering services and changing policies with a strong focus on health equity. Now, with a new mayoral administration, we are ready to refresh our plan. While our work on Healthy Chicago 2.0 continues, it's time to be even bolder about how we tackle issues of institutional racism and increase our impact on the root causes of health. So CDPH is working on the next Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan, Healthy Chicago 2025. Community voice must guide our approach. Throughout the assessment process we obtained feedback from community members and community organizations through surveys, focus groups, meetings and a review of local plans. To make sure we got the key takeaways right, CDPH presented findings at three community meetings. We conducted feedback sessions at the I AM ABLE meeting in North Lawndale, the Network of Woodlawn meeting in Woodlawn and the Family Focus meeting in Humboldt Park. The feedback received will help us identify the action areas for Healthy Chicago 2025.

Community Health Center Learning Collaborative - Substance Use Program: CDPH Substance Use program's Community Health Center Learning Collaborative was selected as a Promising Practice by the National Association of County and City Health Officials' (NACCHO) Model Practice Program. The Learning Collaborative is for health center decision makers and providers to increase capacity for prescribing medications to treat opioid use. The selection of this program as a Promising Practice means that it demonstrates exemplary and replicable qualities in response to a local public health need. The Learning Collaborative program reflects a strong local health department role, collaboration and innovation

Public Health Emergency Planning for Faith-Based Communities: The CDPH Emergency Preparedness team wrote and produced their first video training, "Public Health Emergency Planning for Faith-Based Communities." This video training was created to teach Faith-Based organizations the basics of public health, public health emergencies, preparedness and how it applies to and affects their congregations. This training allows our team to spread a cohesive message and reach a larger pool of people to ensure that the public is more informed and know how to prepare for a public health emergency.

Black Women's Expo: The CDPH HIV/STI Bureau along with their Project PrIDE partners conducted condom demonstrations, distributed approximately 10,000 insertive and male condoms and provided education about PrEP and U=U at the Black Women's Expo. In collaboration with the HIV/STI Bureau's health promotion efforts, the CDPH nutrition and emergency preparedness team also participated to provide information on healthy nutrition and exercise, and how to prepare for and survive a public health emergency.

Chicago LGBT Community Needs Assessment: CDPH was a contributor and advisory committee member of the 2019 Chicago LGBT Community Needs Assessment, commissioned by the Steering Committee of the LGBT Community Fund. The Chicago LGBT Community Needs Assessment was conducted by the Morten Group of Chicago, in order to gather data on current needs, issues, strengths and resources of the Chicagoland LGBTQ community. The Morten Group conducted the first needs assessment of this nature for The LGBT Community Fund in 2012. The purpose of this new assessment was to provide an updated snapshot of the community's needs for 2019.

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Emergency Preparedness: The CDPH Emergency Preparedness team presented to a group of students at the University of Illinois' School of Public Health during their class, Public Health Systems, Policy and Management. The CDPH team presented on public health emergency preparedness, followed by the facilitation of breakout sessions with students on different emergencies and planned events CDPH has responded to.

Illinois Alliance for Welcoming Health Care: The CDPH Planning team participated in a press conference of the Illinois Alliance for Welcoming Health Care to release the Model Policies and Protocol. The Illinois Alliance for Welcoming Health Care, of which CDPH is a member, released the Model Policies and Protocol to help healthcare organizations be more welcoming to all clients, especially immigrants. The document contains information about designating safe spaces, interaction with immigration enforcement, along with talking points for frontline staff. This document also integrates a trauma-informed approach.

Measles: Due to ongoing measles outbreaks in the US and the high volume of international travelers in Chicago, which escalates the high risk of measles transmission in the city, CDPH launched a public education awareness campaign and developed a new web-based application that helps Chicago residents locate where they can receive the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine. In mid-May, CDPH identified an individual with a confirmed measles infection in Chicago and worked closely with the highest-risk locations to contact exposed individuals. Chicago has one of the highest MMR vaccination rates in the nation. Most individuals in Chicago are protected from measles because they were vaccinated as children. Ninety-four percent of children between 19 months and three years have received at least one dose of the MMR vaccine.

West Nile Virus: The CDPH Vector Control team has started dropping larvicide in catch basins throughout the city. CDPH places larvicide in catch basins to decrease the number of mosquitoes that can transmit the West Nile virus. CDPH will continue this mosquito prevention program over the next several weeks. CDPH yearly treats over 80,000 catch basins with larvicide, performs field surveillance across Chicago to monitor and test mosquitoes for West Nile and other viruses, sprays to kill adult mosquitoes in targeted areas when West Nile Virus-infected mosquitos are in abundance, distributes information to the public about personal protection and water source reduction, and disseminates reports highlighting weekly mosquito activity and testing results during the mosquito season.

Comments by the Board President: Dr. Lopez proudly reported all board members completed their City of Chicago ethics forms. She welcomed the students in the audience and provided them with an overview of the board's history and explained the board's advisory role in matters of public health.

Presentation: "Exploring Health Inequities in Chicago: Results from the Community Health Assessment" Nik Prachand, Director of Epidemiology, Chicago Department of Public Health

New Business: Dr. Lopez challenged board members to think on how to disseminate today's presentation to other individuals and organizations. She would like to have a discussion on this topic at the next BOH meeting. Dr. Lopez also invited board members to participate in the upcoming Partnership for Health Chicago meeting.

Old Business: None

Public Comment: None

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 9:00 A.M.