

**Chicago Department of Public Health
2015 Budget Testimony to the City Council
October 28, 2014**

Good morning Madam Chairman and honorable members of the City Council. I am honored to be with you today to discuss our plans to strengthen the health, safety and well-being of Chicago residents in 2015 and beyond.

Before I provide those details, I would like to give you a brief update on the many successes the Department of Public Health (CDPH) and our City has had during 2014 – including national recognition for our team’s work and success.

As you will recall, the Chicago Department of Public Health joined Mayor Emanuel, shortly after taking office, in releasing Healthy Chicago, the City’s first comprehensive public health agenda. Healthy Chicago provides the framework for our efforts, guiding CDPH and our partners.

As you know, no single entity – whether public or private – can be responsible for improving and strengthening the health, safety and well-being of Chicago residents. This is why we work with other City agencies, local businesses, community based organizations, faith groups and individuals on all of our efforts.

As you may recall, last August, CDPH became the first big city public health agency in the nation and the first agency in Illinois to receive national accreditation from the Public Health Accreditation Board, supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This was a tremendous honor and testament to the hard work of the CDPH team and our partners to serve the people of our City.

This summer, we received an even greater honor – as we were named the 2014 Local Health Department of the Year by the National Association of County and City Health Officials, the national organization representing more than 2,800 health departments. This is arguably the highest award a public health department can receive and demonstrates CDPH’s growing role as an innovator and national leader in public health.

We are honored by this award and encouraged to see the ongoing work we have accomplished in improving the health and safety of Chicago residents over the past year being recognized.

In 2014, under the leadership of Mayor Emanuel and the City Council, Chicago emerged as the national leader in tobacco cessation and prevention. First, we successfully increased the City’s cigarette tax. This move directly improves public health, as research shows children are the most price-sensitive consumers and that increased cost is the single most effective way of dissuading kids from ever lighting their first cigarette. In addition, CDPH supported the regulation of e-cigarettes like traditional cigarettes, ensuring these products are behind the counter or otherwise not physically accessible to youth. We also championed a new ordinance passed by the City Council restricting the sale of flavored tobacco – including menthol – within 500 feet of schools.

In addition to regulatory changes, CDPH launched the Tobacco Rewards program, providing \$100 rewards to residents whose tips lead to a successful conviction of illegal tobacco sales, including sales to minors. Within just the first 60 days of the campaign, the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection issued 620 tickets to 165 businesses, which may result in fines ranging from \$500,000 to \$1.7 million following the administrative hearing process. CDPH also launched the 'Don't Get Burned Chicago' viral video contest calling on youth to create 30-second public service announcements encouraging their peers to not smoke. We are still collecting entries and the winning video will have a chance to air on Chicago TV.

Our comprehensive efforts are making a difference. Rates of smoking in Chicago are at record lows. In 2014, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that both teen and adult smoking rates in Chicago have continued to decline, hitting record lows of 10.7% and 17.7%, respectively, and are well below the national averages.

In addition to our tobacco cessation and prevention efforts, over the past year, CDPH continued its CPS-based dental program, providing exams and cleanings to more than 113,000 students and ensuring that 15,000 students received follow-up care required after their initial exams. Case management services were successfully launched and will be expanded in the 2014-2015 school year to reach all 42,000 students requiring follow-up care. CDPH also expanded its vision services for CPS students who fail initial screening. During the 2013-2014 school year, 40,174 exams were completed and 25,183 children were provided with glasses. 88% of all CPS schools have already been served through this initiative.

In order to improve youth health outside the classroom, CDPH doubled the impact of its summer PlayStreets program, providing opportunities for more than 26,000 youth and their families to get and stay active at 151 events in 26 neighborhoods this past year.

Following an \$800,000 award from the CDC to improve vaccination rates for Human Papillomavirus vaccine among adolescents, CDPH launched a three-tiered campaign including public education, in-person training for 200 medical providers and a new patient reminder system to increase the three-dose vaccine coverage from 36% to 50% by 2016.

As part of the ongoing work to ensure a healthy, clean environment for all residents, Mayor Emanuel, Chairman Burke and Alderman Pope introduced an ordinance passed by City Council to protect residents from harmful airborne particles, including petroleum coke, commonly known as "petcoke." Companies handling and storing bulk materials must now take stronger measures to protect public health, including indoor storage of petcoke, dust control measures and ongoing monitoring. In September, one facility on the City's Southeast Side indicated its intention to discontinue storage of petcoke after being ordered to pay fines under the new regulations.

As part of CDPH's commitment to expand access to quality care for Chicago residents, CDPH oversaw continued improvements in primary care, mental health and cardiovascular health services, in addition to providing resources and education for residents eligible for new insurance options under the Affordable Care Act.

Overall, CDPH's seven Federally Qualified Health Center partners saw increases in patient visits year over year in addition to providing new services previously unavailable and reporting improvements in quality of care. Our partners now provide oral health services, urgent care clinics, occupational therapy, weight management classes, podiatry services and more. Six out of seven clinics now provide mental health services onsite.

In addition to providing direct mental health services to residents through CDPH clinics, we worked closely with the Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation to launch the H3 program following a \$4 million investment. This new program will provide integrated mental health and primary care services for thousands of youth at CDPH partner clinics on the City's south and west sides.

In the Spring, CDPH launched Keep Your Heart Healthy, a new program that will screen 50,000 residents in eight neighborhoods for cardiovascular disease. The innovative model, which was first piloted in 2013, brings together community-based organizations, community health workers and medical students.

Following the successful launch of Enroll Chicago! in late 2013, CDPH coordinated enrollment efforts in the first part of 2014 to ensure that uninsured residents had the opportunity to apply for new insurance options created by the Affordable Care Act. As of August 1st, 167,674 Chicago residents enrolled in expanded Medicaid. In addition, more than 215,000 Illinois residents gained coverage through the ACA Marketplace. Though final City-level Marketplace data are not yet available, preliminary reports include at least 54,092 Chicago residents enrolled. Our team is already planning efforts during the next open enrollment period this coming year.

We have had great successes in improving the health of our City this past year. And the numbers support this progress. In addition to tobacco rates hitting historic lows, we have reported declines in childhood obesity and the number of new HIV infections. In June, CDPH published the first comprehensive look at life expectancy in the City, providing data over a 20 year period. According to the report, Chicago residents can now expect to live to 77.8 years, a new high for the City -- extending the life of residents by more than seven years. Not only is Chicago outpacing the nation in life expectancy increases, but the good news is shared across the board -- as residents from every demographic and in every neighborhood saw significant increases.

These numbers and the accolades we have received show the very real progress we have made as a City to improve the health of our residents -- indeed, 2014 was a banner year for our department.

Our 2015 budget is designed to build off these successes as we work to take the health, safety and well-being of Chicago residents to the next level. By working together with other City agencies and partners across Chicago, we can ensure 2015 will be even better. Through the budget outlined and the ongoing support of the City Council, CDPH can continue to make the necessary policy, systemic and environmental changes that will continue to improve the health and well-being of Chicago residents.

We will continue to strengthen our current programs, while at the same time make strategic, targeted investments in new areas which I will cover briefly. In addition, as part of our ongoing efforts to pilot innovative models of care, we propose a number of new investments including:

* Mental Health Services for Child and Adolescent Victims of Sexual Assault: This \$250,000 investment will be used to increase the availability of mental health services for children and adolescents (ages 17 and under) who are victims of sexual assault in Chicago. Specifically, the program will provide individual, family, and group therapy; case management; and other supportive services that promote engagement in care. This investment will also reduce existing waiting lists, ensuring youth receive quality mental health services more quickly.

* Crisis Intervention Pilot Project: CDPH will work directly with the Chicago Police Department to improve mental health service linkage and service coordination for residents in mental health crisis who are interfacing with CPD. The \$100,000 investment will result in a new service delivery model organized by a community-based mental health agency in three Police Department districts (2nd, 3rd and 7th) that record relatively high numbers of mental health-related service calls and police transports to emergency care. The mental health agency will provide a licensed clinician to work with police to deliver triage services for the subjects of those calls to ensure they are linked to mental health treatment and ongoing services.

* New Investments in Restorative Justice: Understanding that exposure to violence and other traumas during early childhood increases the likelihood that youth will experience more psychological, social, interpersonal and other mental health challenges, CDPH will invest \$370,000 in local agencies operating restorative justice programs focused on elementary school aged youth and their families. The new program will support social and emotional development by teaching youth valuable skills in building and repairing relationships with their classmates, teachers, family and community.

Again, these new initiatives and partnerships are just part of our story. We are working with partners across the City to fulfill the ambitious goals laid out in Healthy Chicago as we continue to invest in children, ensure access to care and improve the health, safety and well-being of all Chicagoans. But we owe this success – and the recognition as health department of the year – to our staff, our partners, our funders and to you, the members of the City Council who support our work and efforts every day. Most importantly, we owe this success to the people of Chicago.

The ultimate decision to live a healthy life is up to the people of our City. By prioritizing environmental changes, investing in communities, passing forward-thinking policies and improving our health infrastructure, we are providing new opportunities and new options for the people of Chicago.

Thanks to our combined efforts, more Chicagoans have more opportunities today. And more Chicagoans are seizing them - making the decisions that will enable them to live healthier, happier, longer lives.

I look forward to working with all of you and all Chicagoans in the years ahead as we make Chicago the healthiest city in the nation.

Department of Public Health

2015 Budget Hearing

Chicago Public Schools	M	Black
Chicago Public Schools	M	Black
Chicago Public Schools	M	Black
Chicago Public Schools	M	Black
Chicago Public Schools	M	Black
Chicago Public Schools	M	Black
Chicago Public Schools	M	Black
Chicago Public Schools	M	Black
Chicago Public Schools	M	Black
Chicago Public Schools	M	Black
Chicago Public Schools	M	Black
Chicago Public Schools	M	Black
Chicago Public Schools	M	Black
Benedictine University	M	White
Chicago School of Professional Psychology	F	White
Chicago School of Professional Psychology	F	White
Chicago State University	F	Black
Davenport University	M	Asian
DePaul University	M	Asian/Pacific Islander
DePaul University	F	White
DePaul University	F	White
DePaul University	F	White
DePaul University	F	White
Everest College	F	Black
Everest College	F	Black
Everest College	F	Black
Everest College	F	Black
IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law	F	White
Indiana State University School of Nursing	F	White
Loyola University Chicago	M	White
Morrison Chartwells Dietetic Internship	F	Asian
Morrison Chartwells Dietetic Internship	F	White
North Park University	F	Asian
North Park University	M	Black
North Park University	F	Black/Hispanic or Latino
North Park University	F	White
North Park University	F	White
North Park University	F	White
North Park University	F	White
North Park University	F	White
North Park University	F	White
Northwestern University	F	Asian

Department of Public Health

2015 Budget Hearing

Northwestern University	F	White
Rush University Medical Center	F	Asian/Pacific Islander
Rush University Medical Center	F	White
Saint Louis University	F	Black
University of Alabama	F	White
University of Chicago	F	Asian/Pacific Islander
University of Chicago	M	White
University of Chicago	M	White
University of Chicago	M	White
University of Chicago	F	White
University of Illinois at Chicago	F	White
University of Illinois at Chicago	M	White
University of Illinois at Chicago	F	White
University of Illinois at Chicago	F	White
University of Illinois at Chicago	M	Asian/Pacific Islander
University of Illinois at Chicago	M	White
University of Illinois at Chicago	F	White/Hispanic
University of Illinois at Chicago	F	White
University of Illinois at Chicago	F	Asian/Pacific Islander
University of Illinois at Chicago	F	Asian/Pacific Islander
University of Illinois at Chicago	F	White
University of Illinois at Chicago	M	White
University of Illinois at Chicago	F	Asian/Pacific Islander
University of Illinois at Chicago	M	White
University of Wisconsin Green Bay	F	White
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay	F	White
University of Wisconsin-Madison	M	White

