



NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME TO THE **HEALTHY CHICAGO** NEWSLETTER

This newsletter brings you the latest updates on the Chicago Department of Public Health's work to close Chicago's racial life expectancy gap. We'll also highlight partner stories, resources and ways you can get involved.

What is Healthy Chicago 2025?

Healthy Chicago 2025 is the movement toward addressing health disparities and improving community health for all Chicagoans. Together, CDPH and our many community partners continue these efforts in 2023.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT HEALTHY CHICAGO](#)

[LEARN MORE ABOUT CDPH SERVICES](#)

Follow us on social media for
up-to-the-minute news about Healthy Chicago



ABOUT THE CHICAGO DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Our Vision

Everyone in Chicago thrives and achieves their optimal health and wellness.



Our Mission

The Chicago Department of Public Health works with communities and partners to create an equitable, safe, resilient and Healthy Chicago.

WHAT'S NEW AT CDPH

ENVIRONMENT

Chicagoans working together to expand the city's tree canopy

Our Roots Chicago, the city's strategy for equitable expansion of Chicago's tree canopy, aims to plant 75,000 during the next five years. The project celebrated a successful kickoff year in 2022 by planting 18,000 new trees!



18,000 NEW TREES PLANTED IN 2022

Stay up to date on environmental news in your community and across Chicago. Visit [the CDPH Community Environment Information site](#) to sign up for updates!



LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR ROOTS

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

CDPH expands mental health network to all 77 neighborhoods

In February, CDPH announced the expansion of no-barrier mental health services to all 77 Chicago neighborhoods. Residents can get help at 177 clinics and clinical programs, regardless of insurance status, immigration status, or ability to pay.

Visit mentalhealth.chicago.gov, call 211, or call the CDPH Mental Health Clinic Intake Line at 312-747-1020.

[LEARN MORE](#)



INFECTIOUS DISEASES

CDPH premieres *HIV and the Journey Toward Zero* documentary

In February, CDPH debuted *HIV and the Journey Toward Zero*. The film follows Chicago activists and survivors as they share their experience and explain what “getting to zero” would mean to our communities. Black and Latinx communities still bear a disproportionate share of new HIV cases, even as new cases reach historic lows.

To learn about future events and watch a trailer, visit journeytowardzero.com.

[LEARN MORE](#)



INFANT & CHILD HEALTH

Chicago makes massive strides in reducing childhood lead poisoning

The risk of childhood lead overexposure has significantly decreased thanks to strong policies and action by CDPH. In 1996, the estimated prevalence of blood lead levels of 5 ug/dL or greater among Chicago's children was 70.2%; by 2021 it dropped to 1.8%. Learn more in our recent Lead Report and visit the [CDPH Lead Poisoning Prevention site](#) for information on the lead inspection process and ways Chicagoans can create healthy, lead-safe homes.



[READ THE RECENT LEAD REPORT HERE](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM ORGANIZATIONS

Community Health Response Corps to connect residents with resources

Chicago's COVID-19 Contact Tracing Corps is evolving into its next phase as the Community Health Response Corps (CHRC). Eleven community organizations were selected to hire up to 150 community members from 17 priority neighborhoods. CHRC members will help residents access reliable information, recovery support like economic and social programs and services, and health resources. Communities can also learn about health and social services through events, canvassing and a call center.



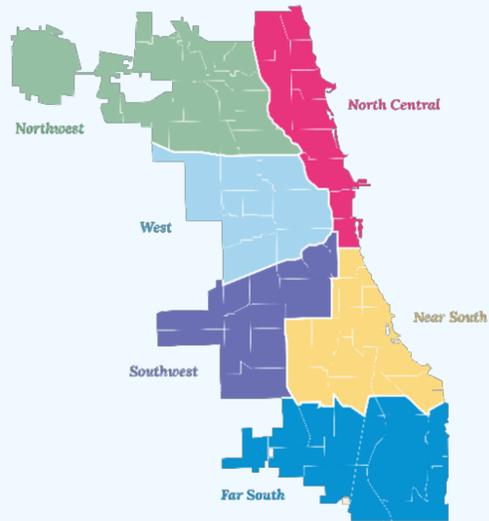
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HEALTHY CHICAGO 2025 IN ACTION

Partner Updates

Healthy Chicago Equity Zones

Healthy Chicago is a city-wide effort, and we recognize that communities need leadership at the hyper-local level to close the racial life expectancy gap. To distribute funds, strengthen organizations and create change, we identified and fund six geographic Equity Zones, guided by regional leads, that cover the entire city.



HCEZ in the news

Our six Healthy Chicago Equity Zone Regional Leads were recently awarded the 2022 Dr. Martha Clare Morris Community Champion Award by the Chicago Consortium for Community Engagement. The award highlights a project or intervention centered on under-represented and marginalized communities and a commitment to engaging local residents in the project.

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RAISE YOUR PUBLIC HEALTH VOICE

Advancing policy change, together

We must transform policy and systems to move the needle toward greater health equity in Chicago. Together, we can build strategic partnerships and use our public health expertise to advocate for change.

The current issue: Sustainable public health funding

Public health funding is usually tied to specific diseases or conditions, and federal grant funding for the COVID-19 pandemic response ends May 11. We must advocate for sustainable funding to



maintain our ability to:

- Use data to plan and take action
- Mobilize partnerships and collaborations
- Direct resources in support of health equity.

What you can do

Talk to our elected federal, state, and city decision makers about ongoing investment and sustainable funding for public health work to advance health equity.

[FIND YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS](#)

COMMUNITY RESOURCES



The Chicago Health Atlas is a place to review and compare health-related data over time and across communities. It's an evolving tool that allows residents to see progress against Healthy Chicago priorities.

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HIV Resource HUB

Get information and direct connections to HIV services, including HIV testing and Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) support, primary care, housing help and more. Call 1-844-HUB-4040 or visit hivhub.org.



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Public Health Emergency ending —what it means for you

The Public Health Emergency that was declared by the federal government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic will expire on May 11, and that means temporary rules regarding certain health services and health care plans will be phased out. One important change is automatic re-enrollment in Medicaid will end.

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CDPH STI and HIV website

Access information and resources for HIV/STI testing and treatment, links to HIV Primary Care, data reports on HIV and STIs in Chicago, and information on PrEP.

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Introducing 211: your guide to health & human services

211MetroChicago is a free, confidential helpline with 24/7 access to a trained, local specialist. Get connected to food, housing, health care, and other resources.

Call 211, text your zip code to 898211 or visit 211MetroChicago.org



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Get immediate help with the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

Dial 988 if you, or a loved one, are having thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crises, or any other kind of emotional distress. Call 988 or visit 988lifeline.org



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 *Want to get involved in Healthy Chicago?*
Visit healthychicago.org    

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