

# HEALTHY CHICAGO 2025 SYMPOSIUM

## HCEZ SHOWCASE

Chicago Department of Public Health



# Agenda

**10-10:45AM – WELCOME & HC2025 OVERVIEW/UPDATE**

**10:45-11:30AM – HEALTHY CHICAGO EQUITY ZONES SHOWCASE**

**11:30-12:00PM – NETWORKING CONNECTION/PARTNER TABLING**

**12:00-1:00PM – LUNCH**

**1:00-2:00PM BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**2:00-3:00PM – CLOSEOUT SESSION**





# LAND AND LABOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Presented by Brittany Williams





# HEALTHY CHICAGO SYMPOSIUM

Building the Movement:  
Reflections & Commitments



HEALTHY  
CHICAGO



*Megan Cunningham + Genny Turner*



# During our time together, we will...

- Share the story of our Healthy Chicago movement
- Discuss the latest data on gaps and gains
- Celebrate progress toward our 2025 strategies
- Recommit to furthering health and racial equity



# HEALTHY CHICAGO: OUR STORY



HEALTHY  
CHICAGO





*There's a specific*

**PRIDE**

*in being a Chicagoan*







*It's in the way we*

# WALK OUR STREETS



*The way we come*

**TOGETHER**

*to celebrate*







*And the way we care for*

# OUR PEOPLE





*In Chicago our*

**COMMUNITIES**

*reflect our*

**PRIDE**







*Each community is  
unique, but they share a  
common goal:*

**Access to the resources  
and power to live  
healthy lives**





**But too often, Chicagoans  
have limited access to  
resources and their voices  
are undervalued.**

**Our Black communities are  
especially impacted by these  
disparities, and as a result,  
their life spans are shorter.**





That's where Healthy  
Chicago comes in.

We started as an *idea*.

We evolved into a *movement*.

Now, we're taking *action*.

Together,  
we are creating the  
communities  
we *all* deserve.







# HEALTHY CHICAGO 2.0

First Chicago public health improvement plan to center the social determinants of health

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



## HEALTHY CHICAGO 2.0

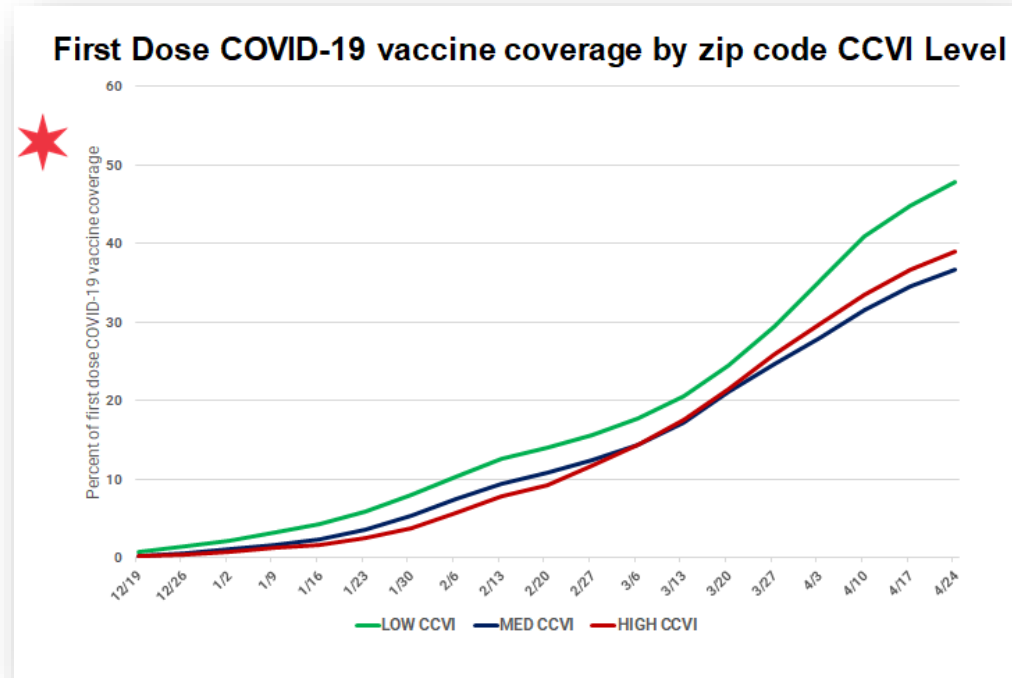
PARTNERING TO IMPROVE HEALTH EQUITY  
2016 - 2020





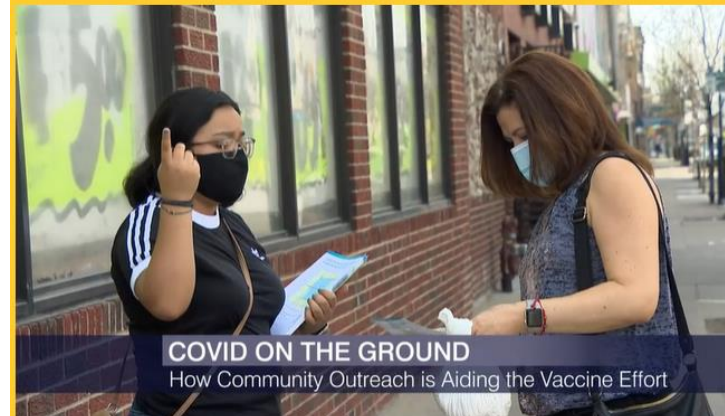
# COVID-19 & RACIAL EQUITY

- Exposed longstanding racial inequities
- Effective pandemic response required co-leadership with communities



## Community Organizers Lead the Charge to Get Residents Vaccinated

Erica Gunderson | April 10, 2021, 5:30 pm



**COVID ON THE GROUND**  
How Community Outreach is Aiding the Vaccine Effort





# HEALTHY CHICAGO 2025

First Chicago public health plan to center the structural determinants of health, including institutional racism



# HEALTHY CHICAGO 2025

Closing Our  
Life Expectancy Gap  
2020–2025





## ★ OUR VISION ★

Chicago is a city where all people and all communities have power, are free from oppression and are strengthened by equitable access to resources, environments and opportunities that promote optimal health and well-being.



## ★ OUR MISSION ★

To close the racial life expectancy gap, we will improve systems of care for populations most affected by inequities; further the health and vibrancy of neighborhoods; strengthen community capacity and youth leadership; and transform policies and processes to foster anti-racist, multicultural systems.



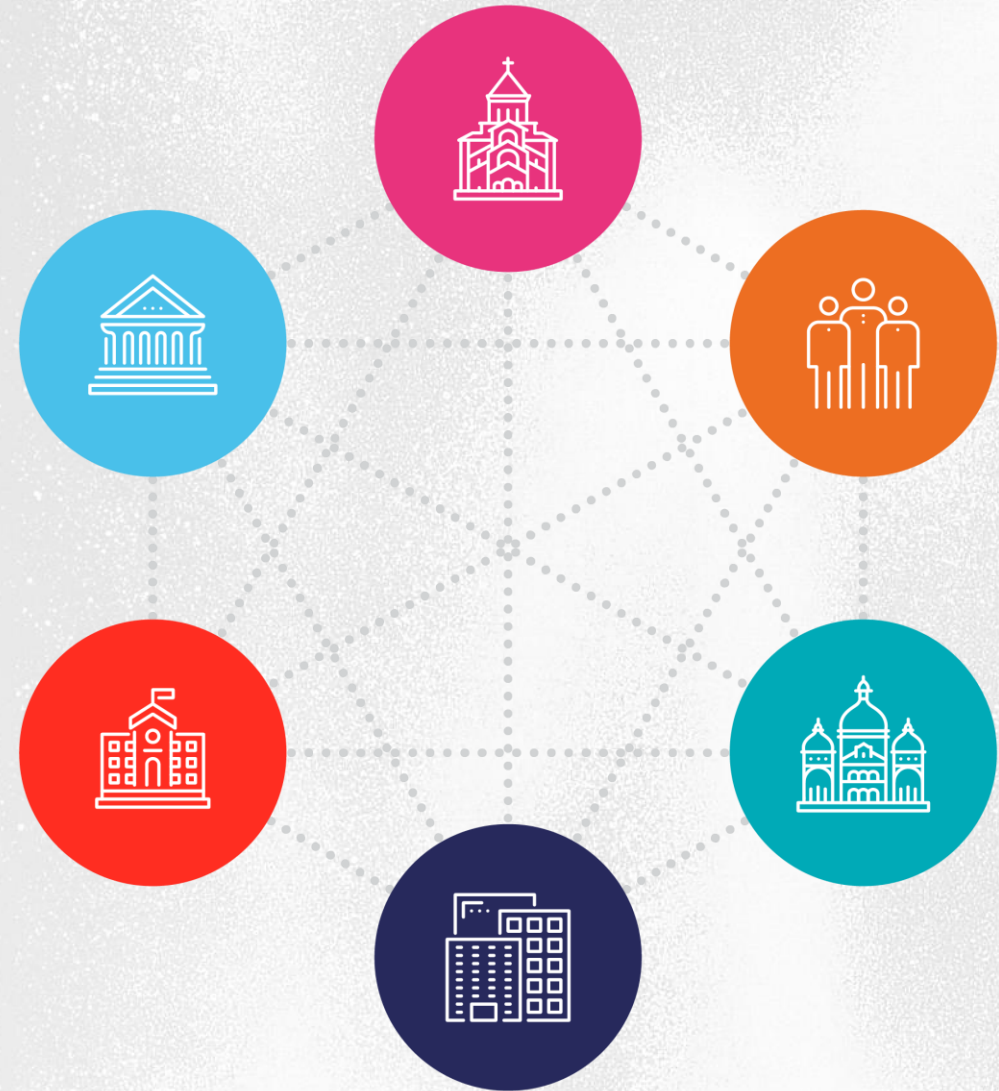




# WHO IS PART OF HEALTHY CHICAGO?

Together we represent Chicago's vast public health system, working to promote health and racial equity through coordinated action and planning.

The movement brings together groups from various sectors across the city—neighborhood and faith-based groups, businesses, government, policy advocates and more—to take real action for equity and better health and wellbeing.







# HOW IS OUR APPROACH DIFFERENT?

Healthy Chicago recognizes that how we do our work matters as much as what we do. Healthy Chicago's six guiding principles create accountability and explain how institutions can better serve all Chicagoans.







# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We ask these questions to design activities that embrace the guiding principles of Healthy Chicago. And you can, too!



**1**  
**Antiracism**  
*We actively challenge and fix racist systems.*

How do racist systems affect your work?

How can we work together to change that?



**2**  
**Asset-Based**  
*We lift up the strengths and culture of our communities.*

How can we include the community in our plans?

How can we create opportunities for community storytelling?



**3**  
**Capital Building**  
*We promote community wealth, affordability and belonging.*

How can we ensure that communities can access funding and build wealth?

What opportunities can we create in our communities?





# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We ask these questions to design activities that embrace the guiding principles of Healthy Chicago. And you can, too!



**Community-Led**  
*We ensure community members, including youth, have power in decision-making.*

How can we ensure communities have an equal say in decision-making?

How can we make resources more available?



**Equity-Focused**  
*We build policies that benefit the most people in all communities.*

How can groups support acceptance and fairness?

How can groups include diversity in their hiring and employment?



**Trauma-Informed**  
*We respond with compassion and empathy to support resilience and healing.*

How can our work avoid bringing up existing traumas?





# WHERE ARE WE FOCUSING OUR EFFORTS?

Healthy Chicago regularly collects data and listens to Chicagoans about their daily experiences. This feedback directs our work into seven priority areas, so we invest the greatest resources where they're most needed.



*Healthy food,  
close to home*



*Breathe clean air,  
drink clean water*



*The care every Chicagoan  
needs and deserves*



*Creating vibrant neighborhoods  
that reflect Chicagoans'  
identities*



*Safe public spaces that  
serve all Chicagoans*



*Equitable and accountable  
institutions*



*Safe, affordable homes  
for everyone*





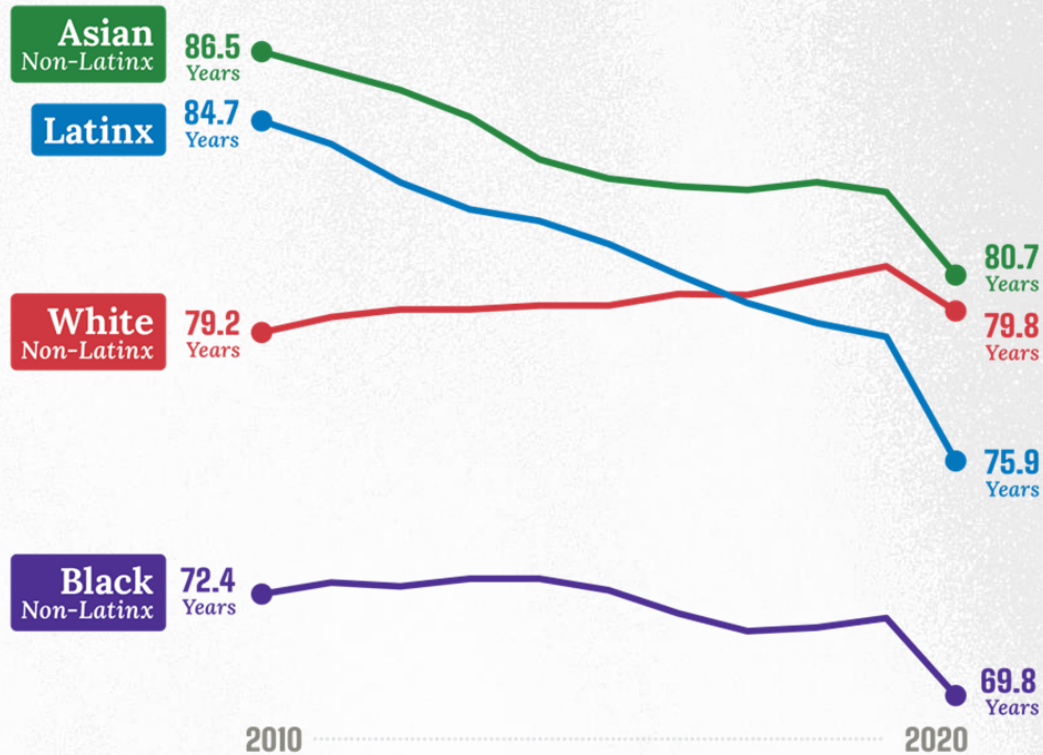
# HEALTHY CHICAGO: GAPS & GAINS







# LIFE EXPECTANCY: 2010-2020



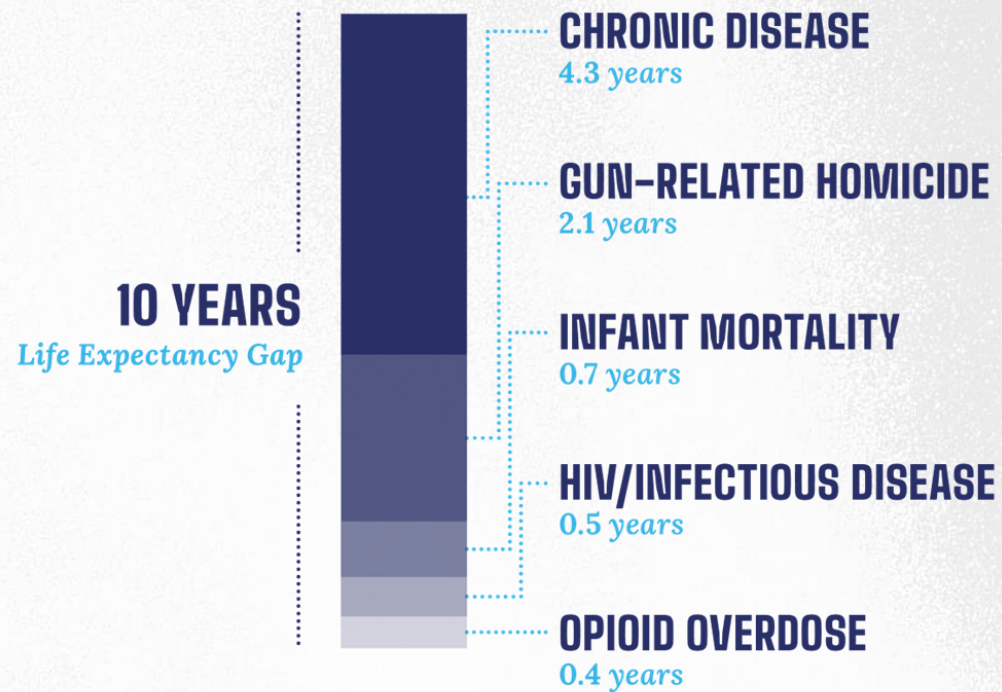
**UPDATE:** As we analyze newly released 2020 Census data and update life expectancy through 2021, *the picture is likely to change:*

- Rebound from COVID-19 peak
- Latinx trend may level off due to demographic shifts, resulting in changing view of health needs
- Potential to see widening gap between Non-Latinx Black and all other race/ethnicity groups.

Watch for new data later this year!



# WHAT'S DRIVING THE GAP?



**UPDATE:** As we analyze newly released 2020 Census data and update life expectancy through 2021, *the picture is likely to change:*

- May see greater contribution of COVID-19 and accidental deaths
- Potential improvement in infant mortality
- Chronic disease will remain the primary driver

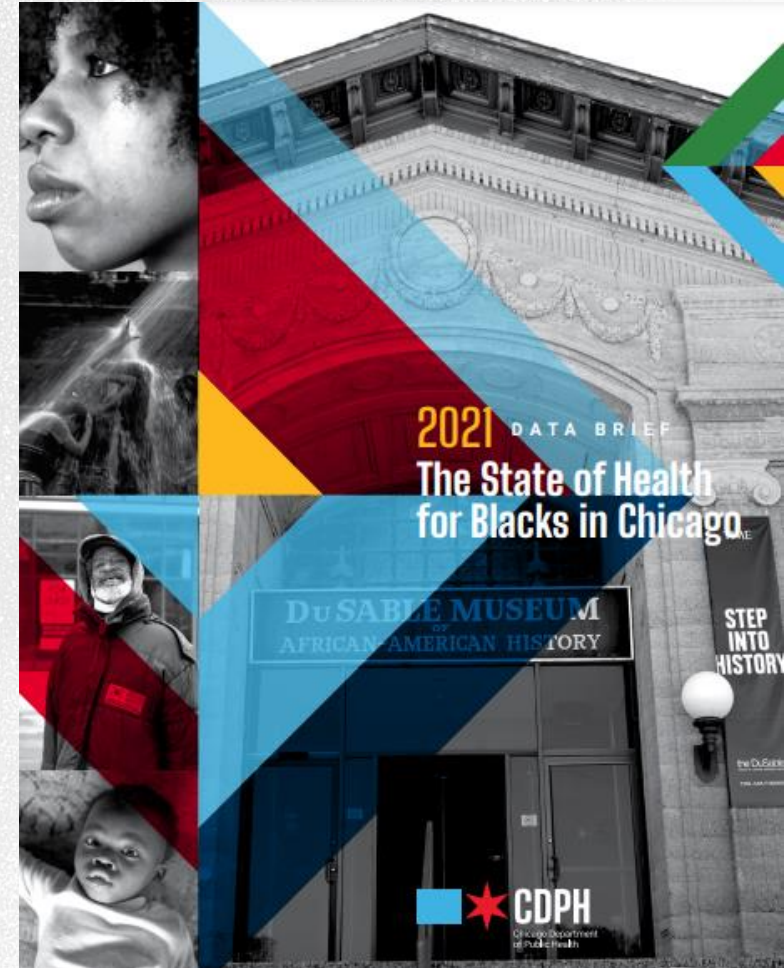
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# NOTABLE GAINS ON HEALTHY CHICAGO INDICATORS









- **Tobacco Use**- 9% decrease (youth); 7% decrease (adults)
- **Overall Health (self-report)**- 6% increase
- **Insurance Coverage**- 10% increase
- **Primary Care Access**- 11% increase
- **Youth Suicide Attempts**- 4% decrease
- **Behavioral Health Hospitalizations**- 53 per 100K decrease
- **Infant Mortality**- 4 per 1K decrease







# EQUITY DASHBOARD

 ARTS & CULTURE	 CIVIC & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	 ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE & ENERGY
 HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOODS	 LIFELONG LEARNING	 PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY	 TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

<https://chicagohealthatlas.org/we-will-chicago>





# HEALTHY CHICAGO: CELEBRATING PROGRESS





# ADDRESSING THE LIFE EXPECTANCY GAP



## Chronic disease

Community Health Response Corps **employs 100+ community health workers** across 10 community-based organizations, who have provided health outreach and service referrals at **729 community events** such as food pantries, pop-up vaccine clinics, CPR trainings, and career fairs since the program started in November 2022.



## Gun-related homicide

City of Chicago funds **18 street outreach organizations serving 25 communities** to engage individuals at highest risk of being victims or perpetrators of violence. Fatal and non-fatal **gunshot injuries decreased more than 30%** in the 24 months following participation.



# ADDRESSING THE LIFE EXPECTANCY GAP



## Infant mortality

Family Connects Chicago has expanded availability of in-home nurse visits and supports to birthing persons, newborns and their families at **7 of Chicago's birthing hospitals (representing 36% of all births in Chicago hospitals)**. Service will be offered in 11 hospitals by end of 2023, with the goal of serving all 15 hospitals by 2024.



## Infectious diseases

New HIV diagnoses are at the **lowest level since the late 1980s**, with fewer than 640 cases diagnosed each year in 2020 and 2021. HIV viral suppression has increased from less than 50% in 2019 to 60% in 2021.



## Opioid overdose

Immediate opioid treatment program (MAR NOW) has **connected 700+ people to medications** to treat opioid use disorder since May 2022. Partnership with **Libraries has distributed over 10,000 naloxone kits to the community** since January 2022.



# RECENT PROGRESS: PRIORITY AREAS



*Breathe clean air,  
drink clean water*

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Issued **environmental justice Executive Order**, with first **citywide cumulative impact assessment** in progress.



*The care every Chicagoan  
needs and deserves*

---

Launched 211 Metro Chicago as an **all-in-one source for health and human services information and referrals**.



*Safe, affordable homes  
for everyone*

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A 2021 assessment helped the city change how it gives out housing subsidies, with a **focus on racial and geographic equity**.



*Safe public spaces that  
serve all Chicagoans*

---

Crisis, Assistance, Response, and Engagement (CARE) program **integrates behavioral healthcare professionals into the city's 911 system**.



# RECENT PROGRESS: PRIORITY AREAS



*Healthy food,  
close to home*

---

Launched **community co-led Food Equity Council**, which **passed Urban Agriculture ordinance** and is advancing other policy and food systems changes.



*Creating vibrant neighborhoods  
that reflect Chicagoans' identities*

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Passed Connected Communities ordinance for **equitable community development near transit**.



*Equitable and accountable  
institutions*

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Finalizing **Chicago's Equity Decision-Support Tool**, which departments and communities can use to guide their approach to programs, budgeting, and policy-making.





# HEALTHY CHICAGO: RECOMMITMENTS





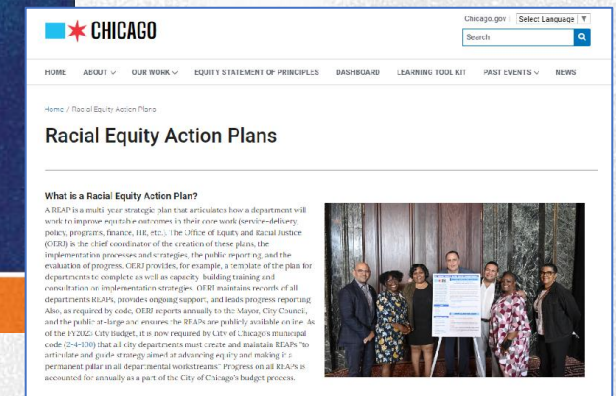
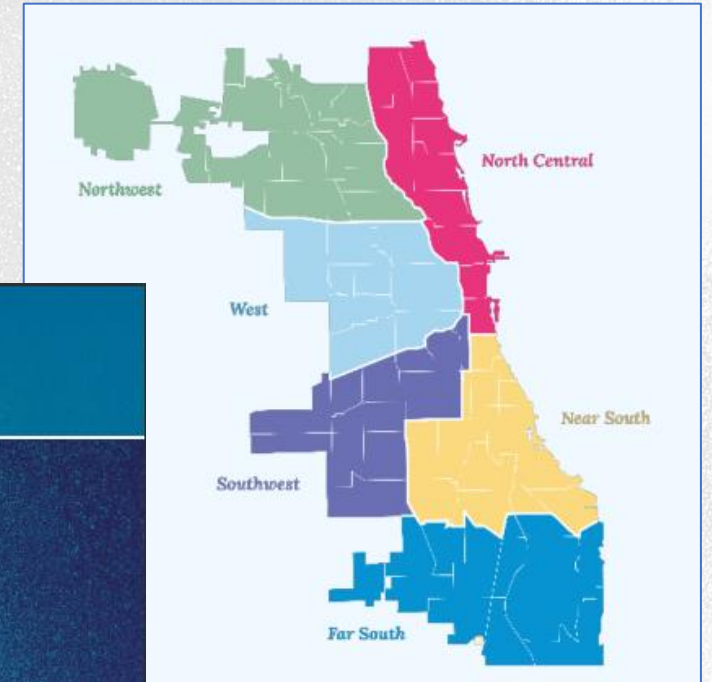


# BUILD COMMUNITY POWER & CAPACITY

Communities need leadership at the hyper-local level to close the racial life expectancy gap. CDPH funds six geographic **Healthy Chicago Equity Zones**, guided by regional and community leads.



**Nurture and sustain HCEZs to address community-identified health priorities.**



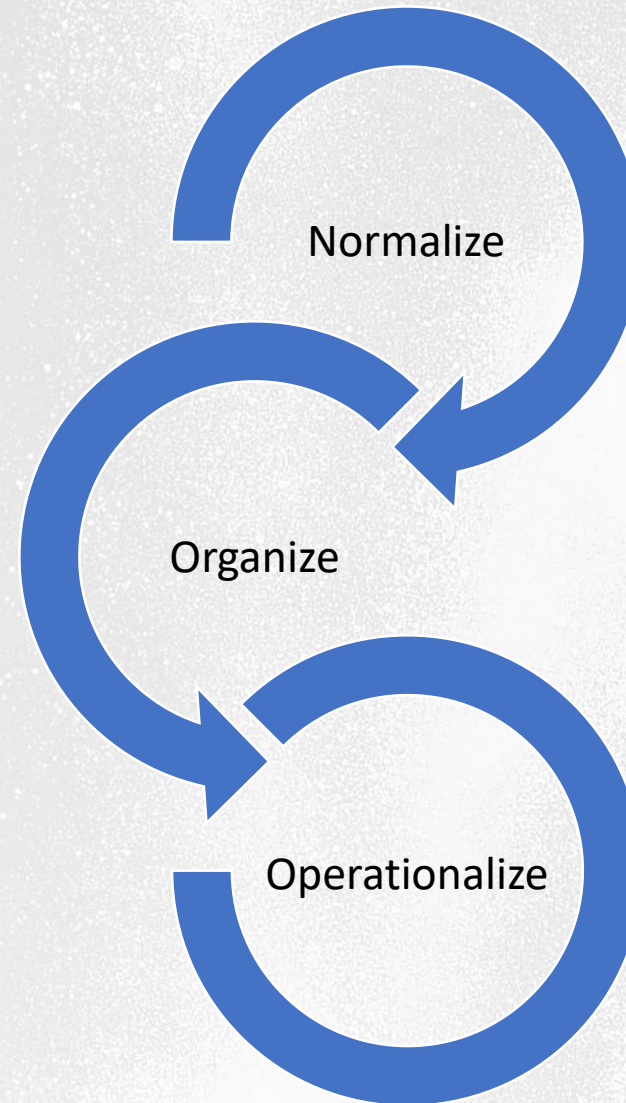




## PROMOTE HEALTH EQUITY IN ALL POLICIES

We are working with City departments, hand in hand with community organizations, to create permanent, structural changes so that equity is routinely considered in government decision-making across all the social and structural determinants of health.

 **Use the Chicago Equity Decision Support Tool (coming Fall 2023) in your work!**







# STRENGTHEN PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE & INFRASTRUCTURE

## Background

In 2001, CDPH had 1,861 budgeted positions. By 2019, CDPH had lost 68% of its positions, reaching a low of 588.

Of the 34 non-recurring federal grants CDPH received since 2020, 26 expire between July 2023 and January 2025. These grants represent a **\$121 million annualized decrease in public health funding,**



**CDPH will continue to advocate for flexible use of grants and additional resources to invest in proven/promising practices to close the life expectancy gap.**





# YOU ARE HEALTHY CHICAGO

THANK YOU!

