

# COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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## Grants awarded in suburban Cook County to promote healthier living.

*Chronic disease prevention projects funded by the Cook County Department of Public Health's Pilot Model Communities Program.*

Today, the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) awarded \$30,000 in Model Community pilot mini-grants to six suburban Cook County agencies to create healthier communities. The projects are focused on reducing obesity, increasing physical activity, improving nutrition and decreasing smoking – all vital in preventing chronic disease.

The grant awards are funded by the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO), Action Communities for Health, Innovation, and Environmental Change (ACHIEVE) project. ACHIEVE was designed to bring together local community leaders to promote policy, systems, and environmental change strategies.

“Chronic disease plagues our communities and preventing them is something we cannot do alone,” said CCDPH chief operating officer, Stephen A. Martin, Jr., Ph.D., M.P.H. “In suburban Cook County, more than 18% of our residents are smoking and 63% of adults and 40% of children are obese or overweight. I congratulate our six awardees for their efforts and wish them success as they continue to work to make their communities healthy places to live, work and play.”

The six, \$5,000 mini-grants were awarded to:

- Alexian Brothers Medical Center
- City of Oak Forest
- Corazón Community Services
- District 63 Education Foundation/ TLC Program (Apollo Elementary)
- Harvey Cultural Center
- Village of Tinley Park

Over the course of a year, awardees will begin working closely with CCDPH staff and community partners to receive trainings and technical assistance to implement their pilot projects.

In collaboration with the Public Health Institute of Metropolitan Chicago, CCDPH will expand the Model Communities program and make additional funding available in the future through the recently awarded Communities Putting Prevention to Work grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

For a list of proposed projects and for more information about the Model Communities program, please visit our website at [www.cookcountypublichealth.org](http://www.cookcountypublichealth.org), or call CCDPH at 708-492-2000.

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