



**Cook County
Department of Public Health**
Cook County Health and Hospitals System



The background of the page features a large, light gray seal of Cook County, Illinois. The seal is circular with the words "SEAL OF COOK COUNTY" around the top and "ILLINOIS" around the bottom. In the center is a shield depicting a lighthouse, a ship, and a plow, with the date "JANUARY 1831" at the top.

Cook County Department of Public Health

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Annual Report 2008

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Introduction Stephen A. Martin, Jr., PhD, MPH, Chief Operating Officer

The 2008 Annual Report highlights a year of continued collaboration. As a multi-faceted department, Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) service units worked together and with community partners to bring essential public health programs and services to the residents of suburban Cook County. As an example, the department worked to support and enforce the Smoke-free Illinois Act that went into effect in 2008, banning smoking in public places; and coordinated emergency preparedness events to better prepare for a public health emergency.

Every day, our department strives to improve the quality of life for residents of suburban Cook County. Our dedicated staff work to prevent the spread of over 70 reportable communicable diseases, provide health promotion programs and enforce public health laws, rules and regulations. We are the state certified public health agency for suburban Cook County with the exception of Evanston, Skokie, Oak Park and Stickney Township. We are also one of seven operating units of the Cook County Health & Hospitals System. The other six operating units include the Ambulatory and Community Health Network of Cook County, Cermak Health Services of Cook County, The Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center, John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital, Oak Forest Hospital and Provident Hospital.

We are pleased to present this document to showcase programs and highlights of 2008. For additional information, please visit www.cookcountypublichealth.org or call 708-492-2000.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen A. Martin, Jr." followed by a large, stylized flourish.

Integrated Health Support Services

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) participated in the Farmer's Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) in 2008. The WIC program provides health care referrals and nutrition education and supplemental foods at no cost to low-income pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, and to infants and children up to five years of age. The FMNP established by Congress in July 1992 provides fresh locally grown fruits and vegetables to WIC participants at the local farmer's market.

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In 2008, the CCDPH WIC program distributed 700 coupon booklets valued at more than \$10,000. Enrolled clients receiving a booklet were able to redeem the coupons at the Park Forest Farmers' Market. More than ten participating local farmers provided a wide variety of fresh fruit and vegetables to choose from for the women and children participating in suburban Cook County WIC.

Most fruits and vegetables are naturally low in calories and provide essential nutrients and dietary fiber. They may also play a role in preventing certain chronic diseases. Health organizations such as the American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, and the American Heart Association recommend five servings of fresh fruits and vegetables per day to prevent conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, cancer, and stroke.

Integrated Health Support Services Statistics

FAMILY CASE MANAGEMENT/DCFS MEDICAL CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (MONTHLY)

Family Case Management	14,381
Targeted Intensive Prenatal Case Management	131
Delay of Subsequent Pregnancy	24
Healthy Families	37
Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention	100

SERVICES (YEARLY)

Daycare Consultations	193
Vision Screenings	6,124
Hearing Screenings	6,340

WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC)

Monthly Caseload	23,422
Yearly Client Clinic Visits	86,067

CLIENT CLINIC VISITS (YEARLY)

Dental Health	6,011
Family Planning	6,638
HIV Screening	530
Immunizations	3,145
Prenatal Intake	3,498
Primary Care (Access to Care)	1,555
Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)	8,653

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Environmental Health Services

The Environmental Health Services Unit is the regulatory arm of the Cook County Department of Public Health and is empowered to enforce Cook County and Illinois laws relating to environmental health issues. Environmental Health staff conduct routine, unannounced inspections at various facilities such as tanning parlors, retail food establishments and public swimming pools. Staff also investigate complaints received from residents and visitors in suburban Cook County.

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The Environmental Health Unit provides primary prevention through a combination of surveillance, education, enforcement and assessment programs designed to identify, prevent and abate the environmental conditions that adversely impact human health.

Environmental Health Services Statistics

PRIVATE AND NON-COMMUNITY WATER SUPPLIES	
Water Samples Collected	
Non-community	386
Private	56
Abandoned Wells	
Sealing Requests Received	310
Wells Sealed	209
New Wells	
Inspections Performed	150
Permits Issued	125
Existing Non-Community Wells	
Surveys Performed	139
Water Analysis Opinions Rendered	1,113
PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS	
Installation Inspections Performed	48
Lot Surveys Performed	30
Plans Processed	30
Witnessed Percolation Tests Performed	6
SEPTIC TANK CLEANERS	
Permits Issued	75
Truck Inspections Performed	84

WELL/SEPTIC SYSTEM MORTGAGE EVALUATIONS	
Evaluations Processed	1
Inspections Performed	1
Water Samples Collected	1
FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS/ RETAIL FOOD STORES	
Intergovernmental Agreements	
Inspections Performed	4,606
Plans Reviewed	73
Unincorporated Areas	
Inspections Performed	461
Licenses Issued	158
Plans Reviewed	10
Food Complaints Received	244
HEALTHY HOMES	
Inspections Performed	6
Presentations	12

Environmental Health Services Statistics continued

LEAD ABATEMENT

Initial Inspections Performed	103
Compliance Letters Initiated	68
Follow-Up Inspections Performed	72
Clearance Inspections Performed	79
Enforcement Actions	3

MOBILE HOME PARKS

Inspections Performed	68
Licenses Issued	33
Complaints Received	26

TOBACCO CONTROL

Licenses Issued	56
Licenses Suspended (30 Days)	0
Fines	1
Compliance Inspections Performed	76
Notices of Violations Issued	1

SMOKE-FREE ILLINOIS

Violation Letters Initiated	394
Complaints Received	628
Inspections Performed	32
Fines	5

INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Inspections Performed	40
Violation Letters Initiated	25

NUISANCES

Sewage Complaints Received	19
Sewage Complaints Inspections Performed	127
Non-Sewage Complaints Received	101
Non-Sewage Complaints Inspections Performed	422
Enforcement Actions	21

SWIMMING POOLS AND SPAS

Public Pool Inspections Performed	657
Private Pool/Spa Plans Approved	15

TANNING FACILITIES

Inspections Performed	139
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VECTOR CONTROL

Inspections Performed	66
Mosquito Trap Checks	731
Mosquito VEC Tests Performed	659
Dead Birds Collected for Testing	46
Mosquito Batches Processed for PCR Testing	659
Specimen Results Reported and Posted	659

CLIENT CONSULTATIONS

Total Client Consultations Performed	7,519
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Working Together for a Smoke Free Illinois

The Smoke Free Illinois Act (SFIA) was signed into law in 2007 and went into effect on January 1, 2008. Cook County Department of Public Health was a member of a state-wide coalition that played an integral role in passing this important public health legislation. The legislation prohibited smoking in virtually all public places and workplaces, including offices, theaters, museums, libraries, schools, commercial establishments, enclosed shopping centers and retail stores, restaurants, bars, private clubs and gaming facilities.

The SFIA protects public health by reducing exposure to second hand smoke, encouraging smokers to quit and discouraging youth from starting. Once the law went into effect in 2008, multiple units within the Cook County Department of Public Health worked to support and enforce the act.

During the year, CCDPH units successfully advocated to maintain the law and worked with high school students to send 800 thank you letters to legislators urging them to continue supporting the act. Health educators conducted public education presentations and Environmental Health staff investigated 628 complaints, issued 594 violation letters and performed 32 on-site inspections. Five establishments were fined for failing to comply with the SFIA.

Policy Development and Communications

The Policy Development and Communications Service Unit (PDCU) researches and analyzes public health policies, advocates for the adoption of science-based public health laws, rules and regulations and provides accurate and timely communications to suburban Cook County. PDCU staff play an important leadership role in formulating and enacting significant public health legislative initiatives in the areas of communicable disease control, environmental health, and chronic disease prevention.

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Emergency Pharmaceutical Dispensing Site Legislation SB2690

(Sen. Maloney - Rep. Yarbrough) Since 2001, CCDPH has worked to develop a network of emergency pharmaceutical distribution sites for the purpose of dispensing mass prophylaxis during a public health emergency. The locations, referred to as “Point of Dispensing Sites” (PODS), are geographically distributed throughout suburban Cook County and are a critical component of the department’s emergency response plan. In 2008, PDCU drafted and introduced legislation (SB2690) requiring public community colleges to make their facilities available to local public health departments in the event of a public health emergency. On October 3, 2008, the governor signed the legislation into law (Public Act 95-0997) and community colleges are now an important part of the department’s POD network.

Food Pantry Recall Legislation HB5242 (Rep. Hernandez - Sen. Trotter)

In 2008, a higher number of recalls of contaminated food products made national headlines. Local health departments are required to notify food service establishments of the recalls so the contaminated food item can be removed in a timely manner. With the increase in food recalls, CCDPH Environmental Health staff identified the need to have a registry of food banks and food pantries so that they may receive notification of food recalls. PDCU staff drafted and introduced HB5242 which required food banks, food pantries, soup kitchens and other related food relief stations to annually register with their certified local public health department. On August 14, 2008, the governor signed the legislation into law. (Public Act 95-0828)

Working Together for Emergency Preparedness

Responding to a public health emergency takes planning, collaboration and preparation among many agencies. Cook County Department of Public Health Service Units including Community Preparedness and Coordination (CPCU), Communicable Disease (CD), Environmental Health (EH), Communications, Health Promotions (HPU), and more work together with community and agency partners from suburban Cook County and the surrounding collar counties to plan and prepare for public health emergencies.

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In 2008, CCDPH coordinated a Cook County Pharmaceutical Stockpile Distribution plan exercise where more than 200 first responders from 25 municipalities from north suburban Cook County came together. The exercise aimed to enhance communication and coordination between Cook County government and suburban Cook County municipalities while activating Points of Dispensing sites.

Approximately 600 community volunteers practiced picking up medications during a public health emergency scenario. Planning exercises are vital to the safety and health of suburban Cook County residents in preparing for a public health emergency.

Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Services

The Communicable Disease Control Unit works to prevent and control the spread of infectious diseases within suburban Cook County. This responsibility is achieved through collaboration with those involved in the identification, diagnosis, treatment and legal, ethical and social management of communicable diseases.

Program Areas

- General Communicable Disease Control
- Enhanced Surveillance
- HIV Surveillance and Prevention
- Infection Prevention and Outbreak Control
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases Surveillance and Prevention
- Tuberculosis Surveillance and Prevention
- Vaccine Preventable Diseases Surveillance and Prevention

Infection Prevention and Outbreak Control

The Infection Prevention Program was established in 2008 in response to a growing number of outbreaks in out-of-hospital settings. The program provides guidance and oversight for infection prevention and control activities in all relevant settings within suburban Cook County including, long-term care facilities, dialysis centers and child care centers.

Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Services (cont'd)

The Infection Prevention Program's outbreak response activities include the control and prevention of potential infections that patients acquire while receiving treatment for medical conditions, known as healthcare-associated infections (HAIs). HAIs are among the leading causes of preventable death in the United States, accounting for an estimated 1.7 million infections and 99,000 associated deaths each year and it's estimated that they cause \$28 to \$33 billion in extra healthcare costs each year.

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In order to contain these outbreaks, the Infection Prevention Program provides intensive hand hygiene education at the facilities, works with the staff to implement appropriate isolation precautions, promotes rigorous environmental cleaning practices, and encourages the use of alcohol-free, antiseptic wipes when appropriate. When these control measures are applied carefully, they often greatly reduce the number of healthcare-associated infections in a facility.

Communicable Disease Statistics

Vaccine Preventable Diseases

Diphtheria	0
Haemophilus Influenzae Type B	0
Hepatitis B	
Acute	66
Chronic	388
Measles	11
Mumps	19
Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	93
Rubella	0
Tetanus	0
Varicella (Chicken Pox)	245

Selected Diseases

Cryptosporidiosis	13
E.Coli 0157:H7	11
Giardiasis	72
Haemophilus Influenzae (not B)	29
Hepatitis A	45
Hepatitis C	
Acute	0
Chronic	776
Histoplasmosis	19
Legionnaires' Disease	38
Listeria	10
Lyme Disease	9

Malaria	20
Meningococcal Infections	22
Meningitis, Listeria	10
West Nile Virus Neuroinvasive	3
Pneumococcal Invasive	32
Salmonellosis	287
Shigellosis	116
Streptococcal Invasive (Group A)	42
Typhoid Fever	5
Tuberculosis Disease	
Active	100
Latent	783

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Syphilis	88
Gonorrhea	2,499
Chlamydia	8,027
HIV (preliminary data)	*208
AIDS (preliminary data)	*103
Other	
Food-Borne Illness Complaints Received	25
Pediatric Influenza Deaths	1

Prevention Services

The Prevention Services Unit (PSU) consists of five program areas that assist suburban Cook County communities in building and sustaining healthy environments. PSU program areas include:

- Chronic Disease Prevention
 - Health Promotion
 - Health Communications
 - Tobacco Prevention and Control
- Community Preparedness and Coordination
- Lead Poisoning Prevention
- Violence Prevention
- Epidemiology and Community Health Planning

PSU is an excellent resource to learn about the health status of a community. Trainings, educational materials and programs are available to support residents in their individual and group efforts to be healthy. Topics include nutrition, exercise, quitting smoking, preventing violence and more.

The Prevention Services Unit focused on strategic planning in 2008. This was its second year since reorganizing to better address violence, chronic disease and access to health care. These were the top three health concerns in suburban Cook County, according to data and input collected from community residents and leaders representing health, social service, government, faith-based, business and other sectors, involved in supporting public health.

In 2008, PSU implemented plans to strengthen the agency's infrastructure and build capacity, and all prevention-services-related program areas are now under one umbrella for better planning, coordination and collaboration. PSU is strengthening a growing network of partnerships to address these and other priority health issues.

Cook County Department of Public Health District Offices

Administrative Office
1010 Lake Street
Oak Park, IL 60301
708-492-2000
708-492-2002 TDD

North District Office
3rd District Courthouse
2121 Euclid Avenue
Room 250
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008
847-818-2860
847-818-2023 TDD

West District Office
Eisenhower Tower
1701 S. First Avenue
Room 102
Maywood, IL 60153
708-786-4000
708-786-4002 TDD

Southwest District Office
5th District Courthouse
10220 S. 76th Avenue
Room 250
Bridgeview, IL 60455
708-974-6160
708-974-6043 TDD

South District Office
6th District Courthouse
16501 S. Kedzie Parkway
Markham, IL 60426
708-210-4500
708-210-4010 TDD

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Cook County Health and Hospitals System Facilities

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Cook County
627 S. Wood Street
Chicago, IL 60612
312-864-0719

Cermak Health Services of Cook County
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Chicago, IL 60608
773-890-9300

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Provident Hospital of Cook County
500 E. 51st Street
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