



**COOK COUNTY
HEALTH**



Cook County DEPT. of
Public Health

Promoting health. Preventing disease. Protecting you.

Press Release

For immediate release: Oct. 7, 2019

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Cook County Public Health Awarded \$4.7M in Opioid Grants This Year

Four grants will help prevent overdose deaths and increase access to treatment

Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) has received \$4.7 million in grant funding this year to prevent opioid overdose deaths and increase access to and use of evidence-based substance use treatment programs.

The latest grant, “Partnerships to Prevent Opioid Overdose Deaths” (P-POD) in the amount of \$1.98 million from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) was awarded to Cook County Health (CCH) in September, on behalf of CCDPH, a CCH affiliate.

Training will be provided to suburban Cook County law enforcement and other community partners. In addition, through the establishment of regional taskforces and the deployment of outreach coordinators, P-POD will support deflection programs to route individuals with opioid use disorders to community-based treatment providers.

To reduce overdose deaths and increase the number of people accessing and staying in evidence-based outpatient treatment programs, CCDPH will work with Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC) and Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

CCDPH is also a sub-grantee on a grant awarded to the Chicago Department of Public Health by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The CDC Opioid Data to Action Grant received in August in the amount of \$900,000 per year for 3 years will enable CCDPH to hire three staff, expand opioid overdose surveillance, and implement law enforcement assisted diversion to treatment.

The agency also received a \$152,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Human Services to educate providers about the Prescription Monitoring Program, which tracks prescriptions of opioids to prevent over-prescribing, and raise public awareness about the benefits of naloxone and the Illinois Helpline for Opioids and Other Substances at www.helplineil.org. Using funding from this grant, in September CCDPH began airing the “Naloxone Saves Lives” commercial on CBS2 Chicago, featuring partners from the Chicago Recovery Alliance and Live4Lali.

CCDPH also joined forces with the Cook County Bureau of Technology to develop an interactive, online Opioid Story Map that launched Aug. 31 in honor of Opioid Awareness Day. The Opioid Story Map shows where to get naloxone, as well as Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) and safely dispose of prescription drugs; and provides numbers, rates and trends of opioid-involved deaths by drug type, location, gender, and race/ethnicity.

To view the Cook County Opioid Story Map, click here: <http://bit.ly/3oIq1bm>. To view the CCDPH Naloxone Saves Lives commercial, click here <https://vimeo.com/360827443>. For more about opioids in suburban County, visit the CCDPH website at <https://www.cookcountypublichealth.org/behavioral-health/opioids/>.

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