

CO-GOVERNANCE FOR HEALTH EQUITY: A CLOSER LOOK AT THE HEALTHY CHICAGO EQUITY ZONES



**HEALTHY
CHICAGO**

A Healthy Chicago Model In Action

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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 and Latinx
communities are most
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*.

Join the movement toward
healthier lives for all
Chicagoans. Together,
we create the communities
we all deserve.



★ 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.





WHY DO YOU CARE?

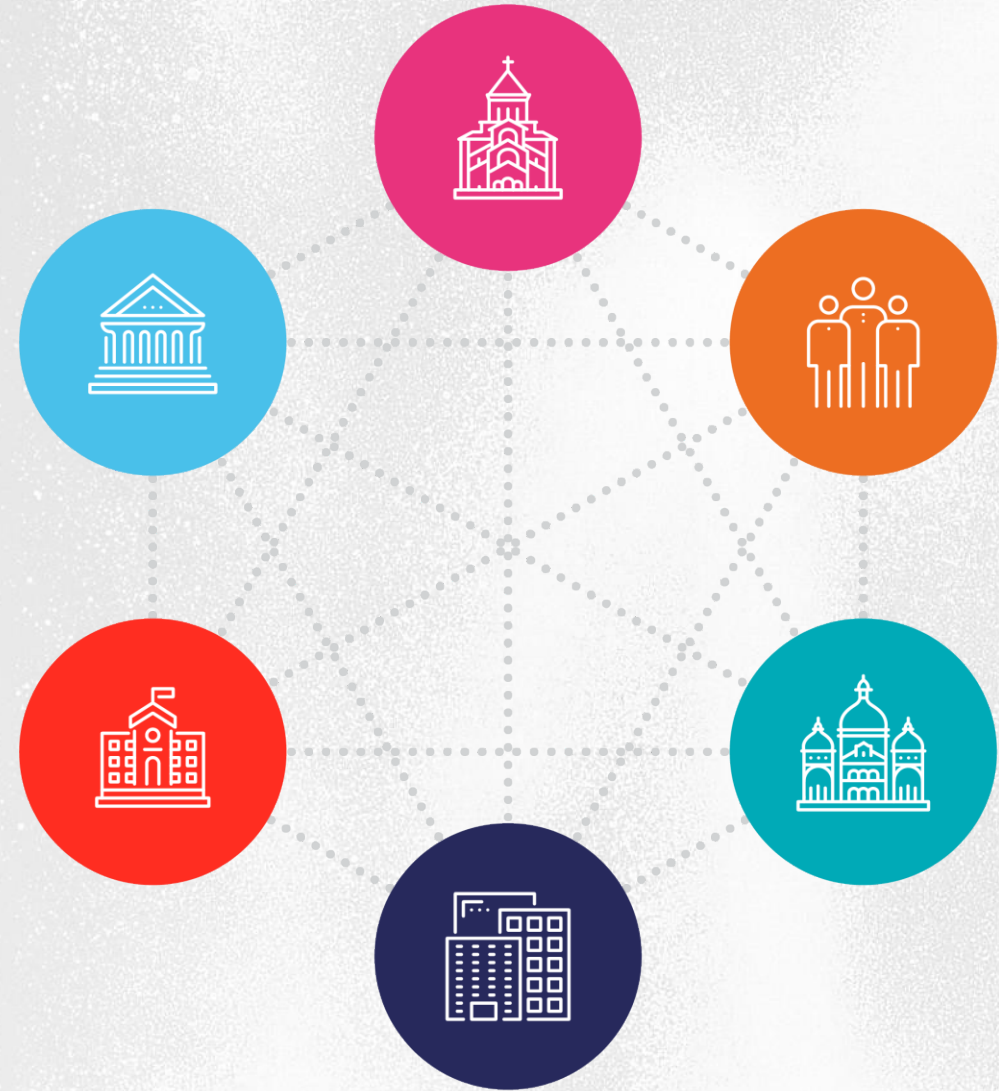


WHO IS PART OF HEALTHY CHICAGO?

YOU ARE!

While Healthy Chicago is an initiative of the Chicago Department of Public Health, our success depends on close collaboration with leaders who live and work in areas most affected by inequitable health policies.

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.

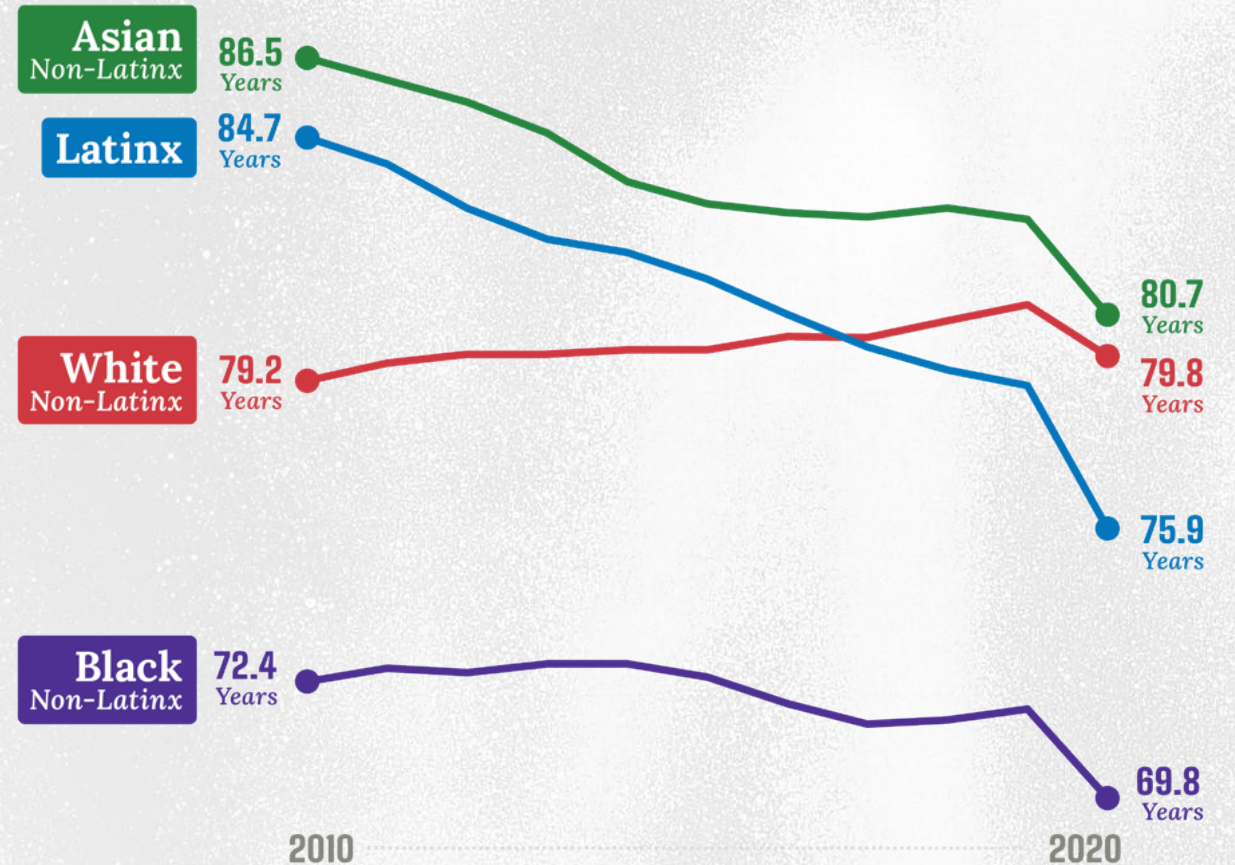




WHAT IS THE LIFE EXPECTANCY GAP?

Life expectancy measures life span—the average number of years a person can expect to live based on traits like age, race, gender and even where they live.

On average, Latinx Chicagoans have lost the most years of life expectancy since 2010. And all racial groups except white Chicagoans continue to lose years of life expectancy.

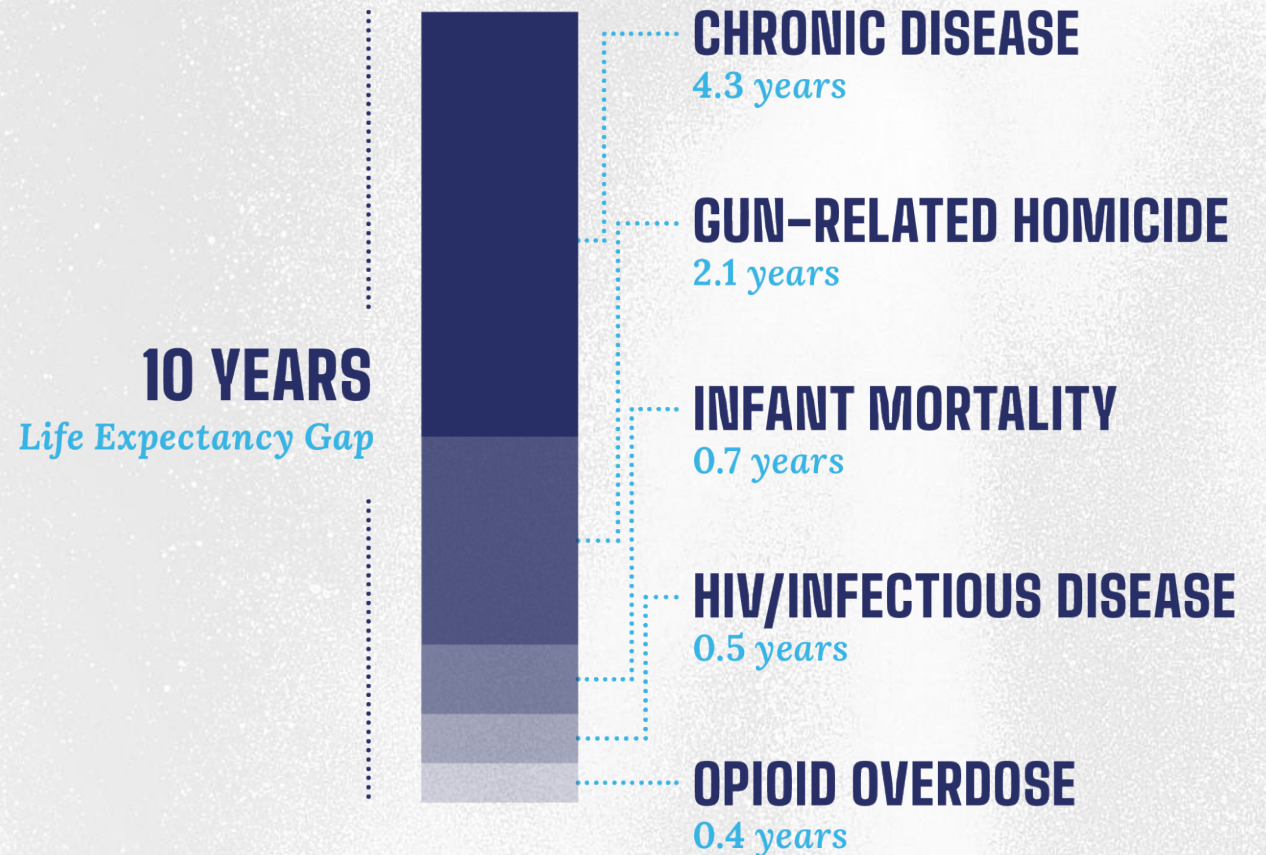




WHY DOES THE LIFE EXPECTANCY GAPS AND DECLINES EXIST?

In 2019, we led a community health assessment to collect and assess a wide variety of data. Along with more traditional health data like mortality and disease, the assessment also includes social factors affecting health (education, income, housing, environment, institutional and social inequities, etc.). Data were broken down by race and community area to uncover life expectancy declines and gaps.

The factors at right are the greatest contributors to the life expectancy gap between Black and white Chicagoans.





WHY IS OUR APPROACH DIFFERENT?

Healthy Chicago is a movement in partnership with our communities. We operate in lockstep with those affected by disparities to ensure power, opportunities and resources are available where most needed. Our work focuses on building wealth and political power within our communities, by our communities.

We understand that institutions contribute to Chicago's racial life expectancy gap. Healthy Chicago's six guiding principles create accountability and explain how institutions can better serve all Chicagoans. They help us refocus our funding, energy and actions where they matter most.





WHERE ARE WE FOCUSING OUR EFFORTS?

Health is something we see and feel in our communities, but it's also measurable.

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 Chicago focuses on quantifiable equity measures within these long-term priorities. We compare data and community feedback over time to measure our progress. And every 5 years, we publish an updated city-wide plan for collective action.



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



The Racial Equity Rapid Response is organized into four categories

Rapid response framework

Education

(e.g. public health campaigns)

Prevention

(e.g. wellness checks, masks)

Testing and Treatment

(e.g. testing sites, contact tracing)

Support Services

(e.g. housing, utilities, food, water, mental health)

Key Enablers*

- Contextual, **community-specific** communication
- Mobilization of **community-level organizers and leadership**
- Data-driven investigative work

Key Strategies*

Education

- Revised guidance for individuals/families based on risk factors specific to CoVID-19 transmission

Prevention

- Community-level personal protective measures (e.g. masks, products, etc.)

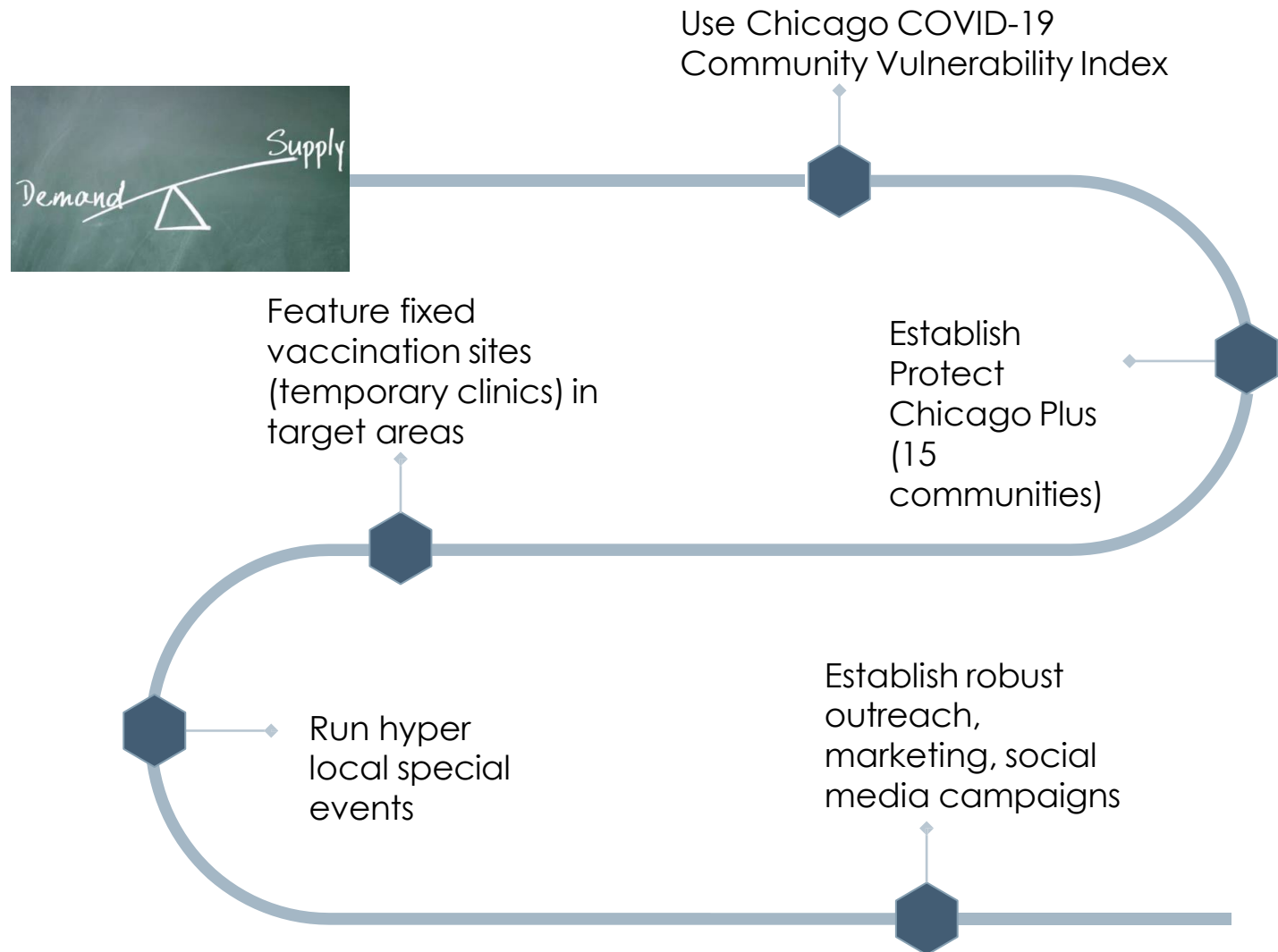
Testing and Treatment

- Targeted symptom screening and testing based on risk factors specific to CoVID-19 transmission
- Provider coordination for early access to care
- Avenues for quarantining and isolation

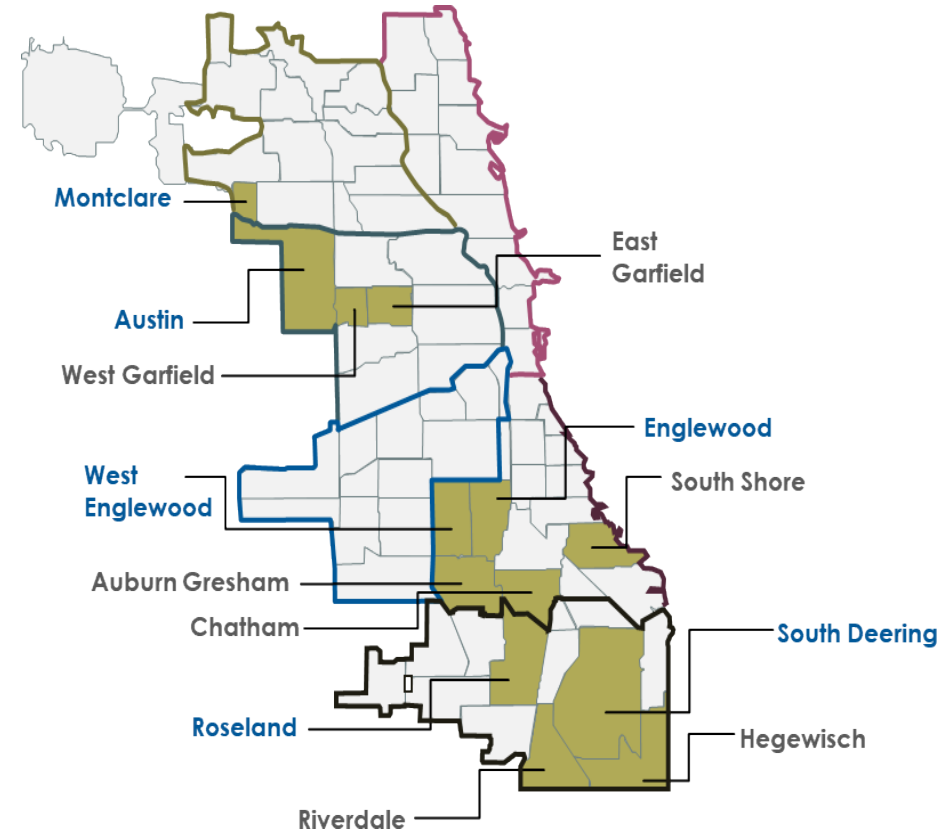
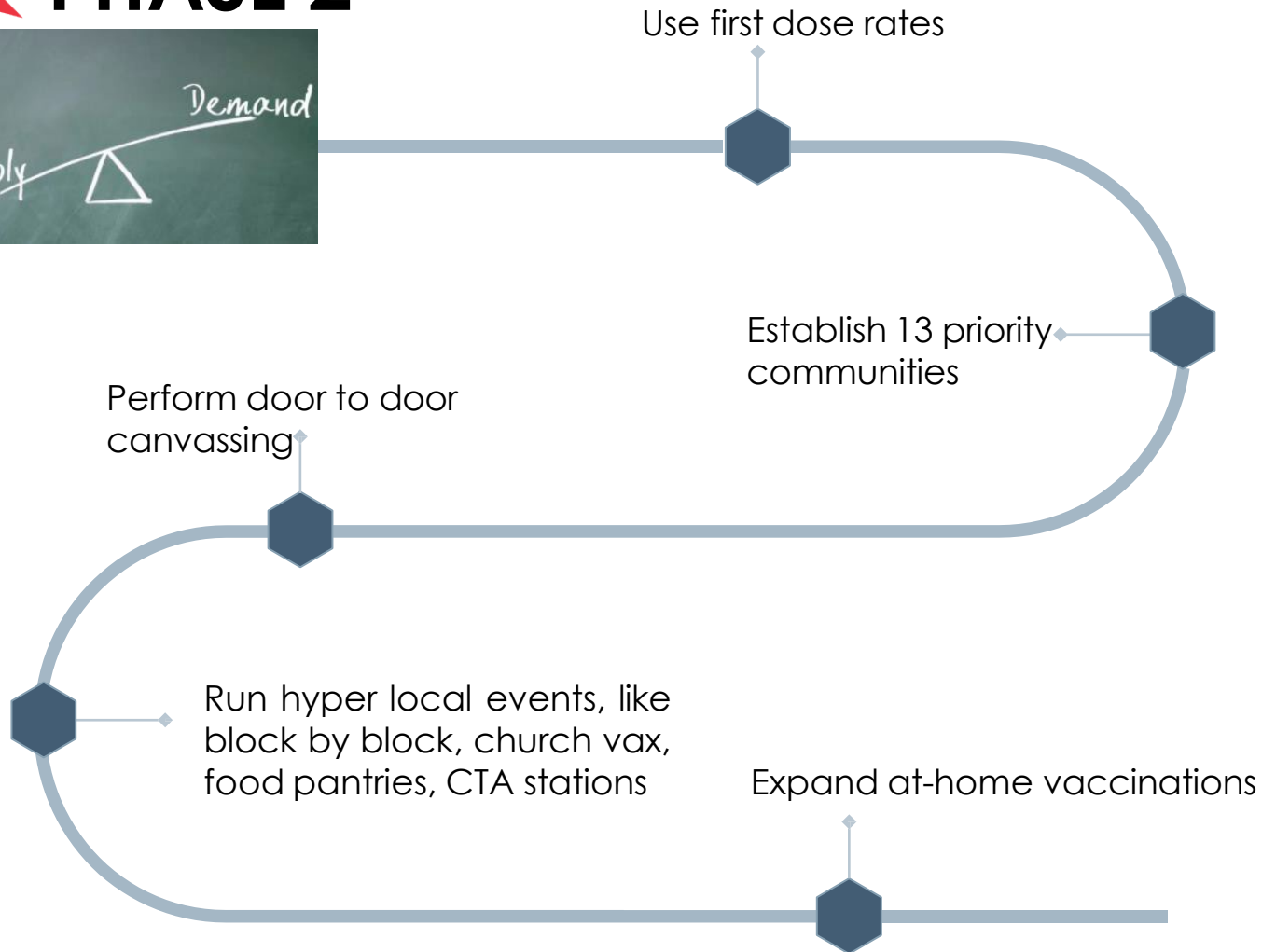
Support Services

- Consideration of the challenges/needs of specific situations/contexts (e.g. multi-generational households, seniors, congregate living residents) both short and long term
- Community-identified contextual factors that mitigate mitigation and need solving for

Continuing Community Co-Designed Model



★ PHASE 2





HOW ARE WE FOCUSING OUR EFFORTS?

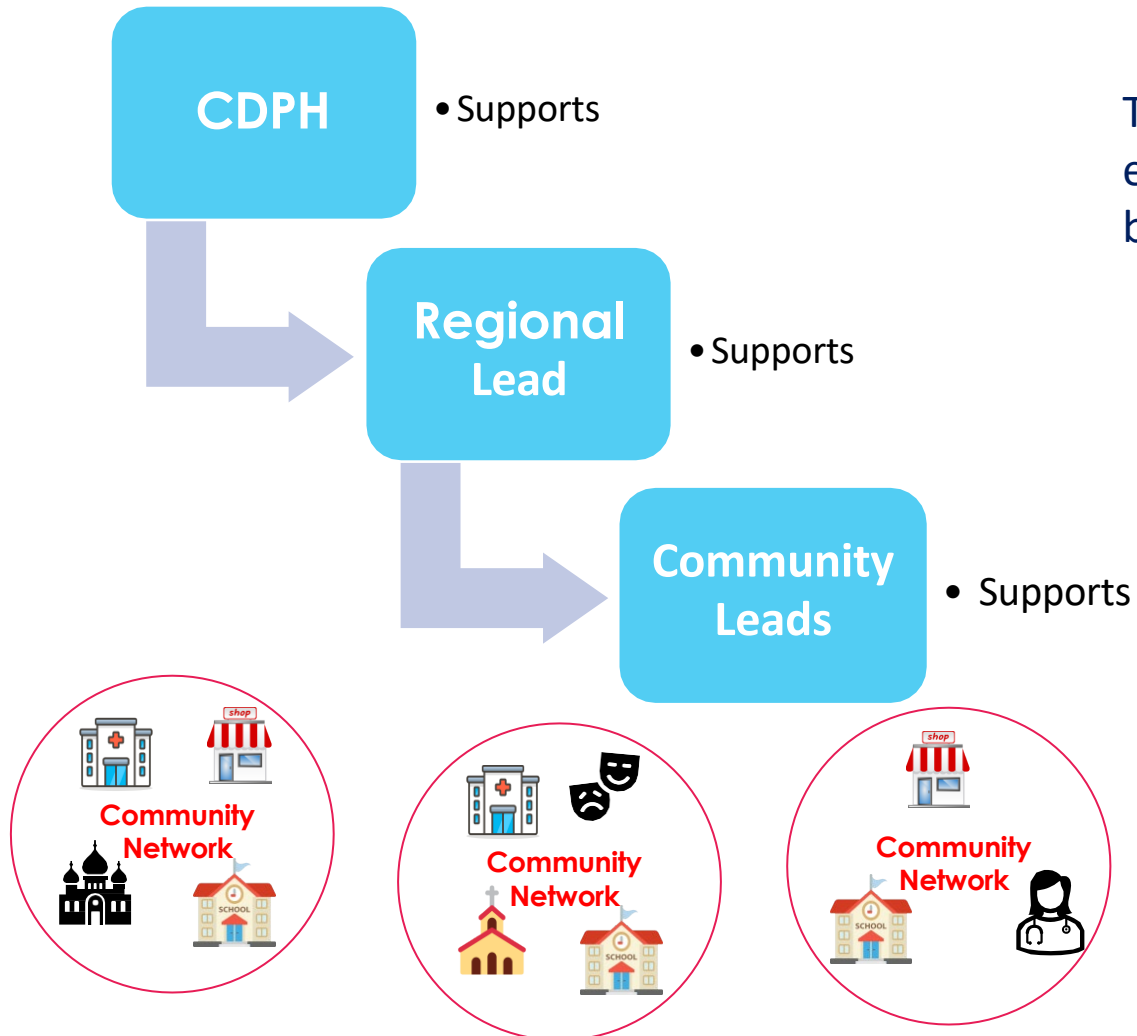
Building on the successful Racial Equity Response Team and Protect Chicago Plus vaccine equity pilot, these efforts began with community leadership of COVID-19 vaccination campaigns, including outreach and engagement during 2021-2022.

Now focusing on Healthy Chicago Equity Zones foundational building, hyper-local community assessments and action planning for priority health disparities areas related to Healthy Chicago 2025



Healthy Chicago Equity Zones

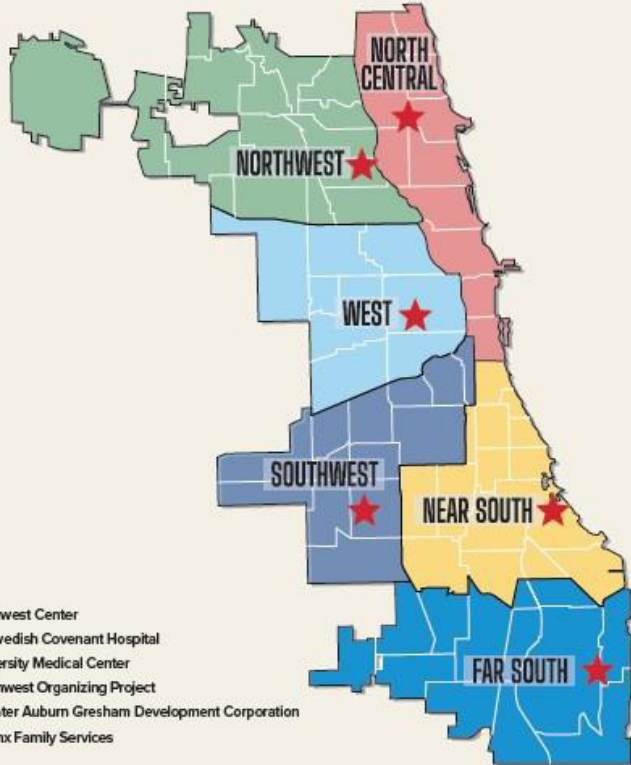
The Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) has established six Healthy Chicago Equity Zone (HCEZs) led by Regional and Community Lead organizations.





HEALTHY CHICAGO EQUITY ZONES

Healthy Chicago Equity Zones (HCEZ) are hyper-local partnerships established to achieve the *Healthy Chicago 2025* goal: closing the racial life expectancy gap in our city. **They ensure that community members have power and resources to identify local assets and challenges, and develop solutions that meet their most pressing needs.** The Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) has established **six HCEZs** (geographic areas) led by regional and community lead organizations (the full HCEZ organizational network is shown on the back). To date, the Chicago Department of Public Health has invested \$28 Million to fund the Healthy Chicago Equity Zones work.



Far South	Near South	North/Central	Northwest	West	Southwest
REGIONAL LEAD ORGANIZATION (DIRECTLY FUNDED BY CDPH)					
Phalanx Family Services	Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation	Swedish Covenant	Northwest Center	Rush University Medical Center (on behalf of West Side United)	Southwest Organizing Project
COMMUNITY LEAD ORGANIZATIONS (INDIRECTLY FUNDED BY CDPH THROUGH REGIONAL LEAD)					
Morgan Park Roots Community Organization	Bright Star Community Outreach	APNA GHAR	Palenque LSNA	Austin Coming Together	Envision Community Services
Graduates Over Guns Corp	Centers for New Horizons	Common Pantry	Metropolitan Family Services	Breakthrough	Esperanza Health Centers
Kids Off the Block	Chesterfield Community Services	EverThrive Illinois	North River Commission	Enlace	Increase The Peace and La Casa Norte
New Covenant Harvest Kingdom of God Ministries	Chicago Family Health Center	ICNA Relief		Equal Hope	Midwest Asian Health Association
New Generation Fancy Drill Team	Project Hood	Lutheran Social Services of Illinois		Erie Family Health Centers	PODER
People for Community Recovery	South Shore Works	Rohingya Cultural Center		Esperanza Health Centers	Southwest Collective
Southeast Calumet Heights Homeowners Association	Teamwork Englewood	Tapestry 360		Sinai Community Institute	The Resurrection Project at Casa Hidalgo
Youth Advocacy Foundation	The Kindness Campaign	Thresholds		Erie Neighborhood House	
Hegewisch Times	UChicago Medicine	C4			
National A. Phillip Randolph Pullman Museum/Roses in Roseland		Family Matters			



HEALTHY CHICAGO EQUITY ZONES

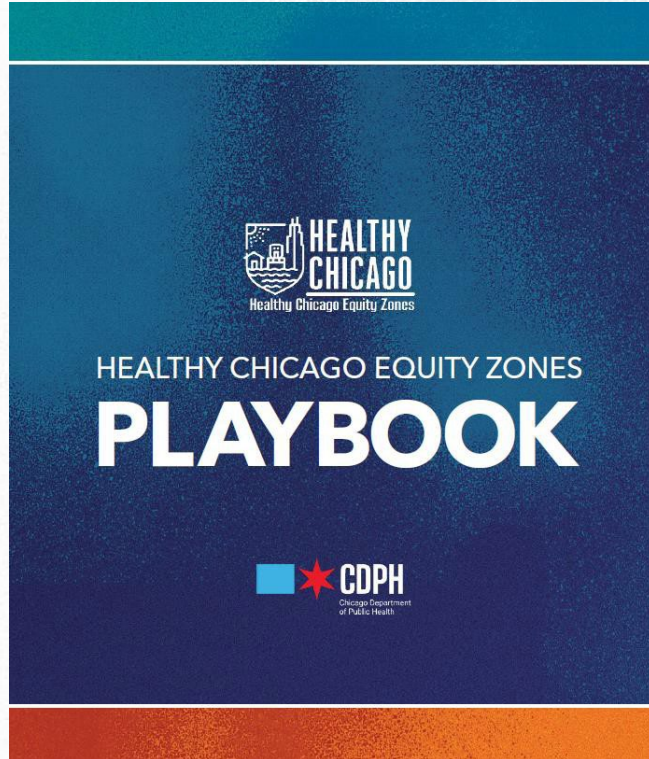
Vaccine Support	Community Assessments	Partner Engagements	Data Collection	Opioids	Diabetes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1,912 hyperlocal vaccine outreach events• 161,682 residents reached• 21,614 vaccines support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 Regional CHA• 72 Communities• 39 Neighborhood Profiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over 500 organization have participated in the HCEZ activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7,000+ surveys• 84 Focus Groups• 19 Asset Maps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Regions supported or held fentanyl test kits/Narcan community build events	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Four regions currently conducting diabetes prevention programs through Illinois Public Health Institute



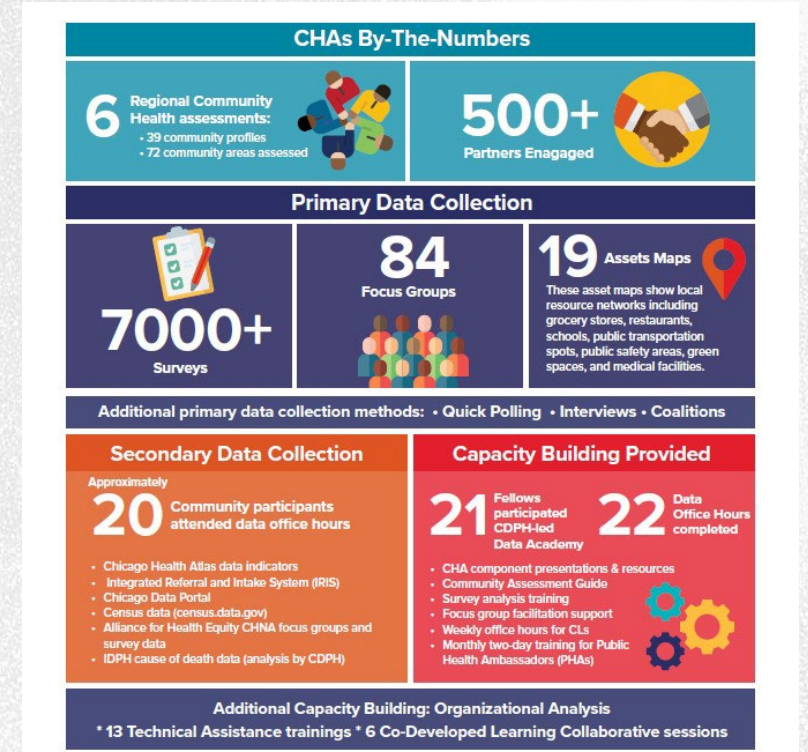
READY FOR EXPANSION OF COLLABORATIONS



HCEZ SHOWCASE PLAYBOOK



Summarizing the Regional and Community Leads Community Assessments. Learn more at the Healthy Chicago 2025 Symposium/HCEZ Showcase [site](#).



Top three priority areas across all 6 Zones

Behavioral Health

Public Safety

Chronic Disease



HEALTHY
CHICAGO

2023–2025 HCEZ Sustainability and Partnerships

- Immunization: COVID/Flu Vaccination Outreach and Events
- Community Safety Coordination Center: Support vacant lot development and upkeep
- Substance Use: Creation of NARCAN distribution centers and training
- Treatment Not Trauma/Community Health Worker programs
- Disease Prevention and Control Training
- Public Health 101 Academy for highschoolers
- Emergency Response Trainings
- Diabetes Prevention Programming Expansion



WHAT DOES ALL OF THIS MEAN FOR CHICAGO?

If we all do our part to achieve the vision of Healthy Chicago, all communities gain access to healthier food, better healthcare and more funding for community projects. The air in our neighborhoods becomes cleaner, a healthy home becomes more affordable, and our streets become safer. And Chicagoans' voices help shape the future of our communities.



BELMONT CRAGIN COMMUNITY-LED HEALTH ASSESSMENT

Lessons learned from years 1-3 of HCEZ

Nancy Valentin

Director of Health Equity

HCEZ NW Regional Lead

Northwest Center





HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICE

COVID-19 VACCINE OUTREACH

Community trusted messengers and the course reversal of a community in crisis.



In April & May 2020, 60639 (which accounts for the majority of Belmont Cragin) had the most covid-19 infections in the state.

The Rapid Response Team jumped into action.

25,000+

- As part of the Protect Chicago Plus program, which prioritized vaccine access in high vulnerability areas, 25,000 doses and counting have gone to Belmont Cragin residents.



2022 Mayors Medal of Honor

Northwest Center received the Mayors Medal of Honor

In 2021, Northwest Center worked with Oak Street Health and over 70 community volunteers to encourage vaccinations through grassroots outreach resulting in a 794% increase in vaccination rates for the Belmont Cragin community.

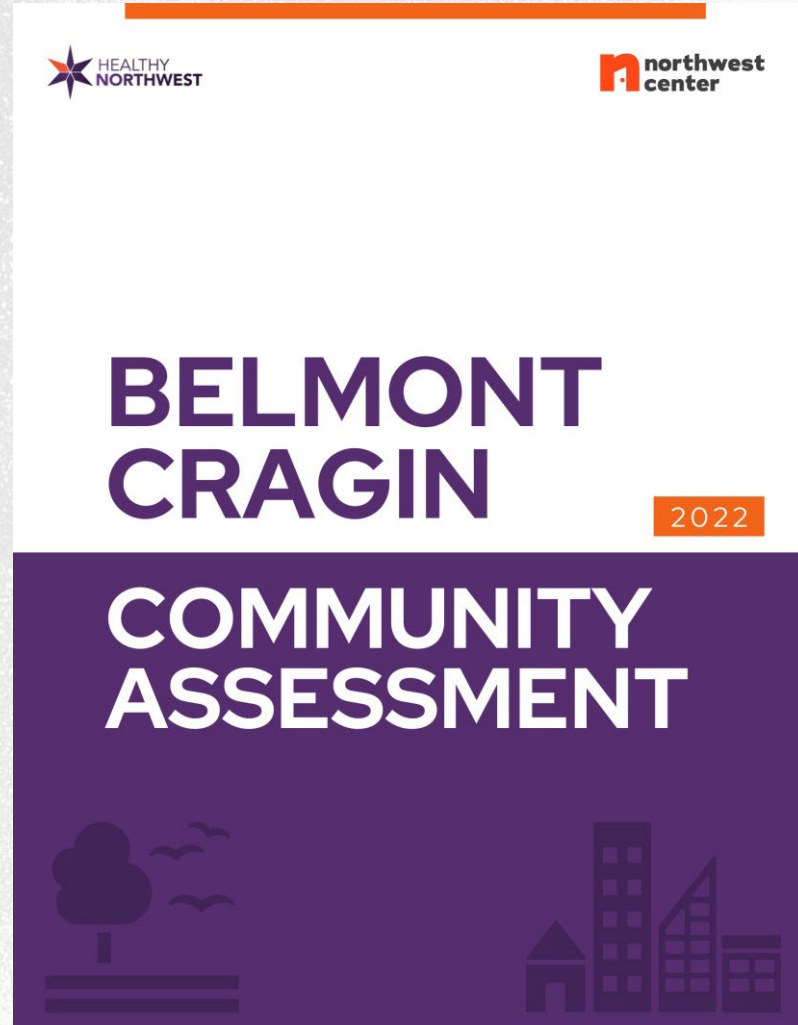
NORTHWEST CENTER





COMMUNITY-LED HEALTH ASSESSMENT

The model used in the Northwest Region blended best practices in health equity planning with quality-of-life planning, a model that empowers local communities to take a comprehensive assessment of community needs. Our methodology was asset-based, rather than deficit-based.





PUBLIC SAFETY

PUBLIC SAFETY

Addressing mental health as an avenue for public safety

Quotes from residents in Belmont Cragin

- “We need to create a safe environment for our children – after all, they are our future. At the very least we need to give them safe grounds.”
- "When we do call the police, most of the time they don't help."

Quotes from residents in Belmont Cragin

- "I'm afraid of getting my car stolen and getting hurt in the process."
- "If I see a crime, I don't report it because I'm afraid of potential retaliation."



PUBLIC SAFETY



LATEST UPDATE

While Belmont Cragin has two mental healthcare facilities in the community, both are at capacity. Residents have to wait 6-8 months to be seen. The need is greater and has been growing since the onset of the covid-19 pandemic.



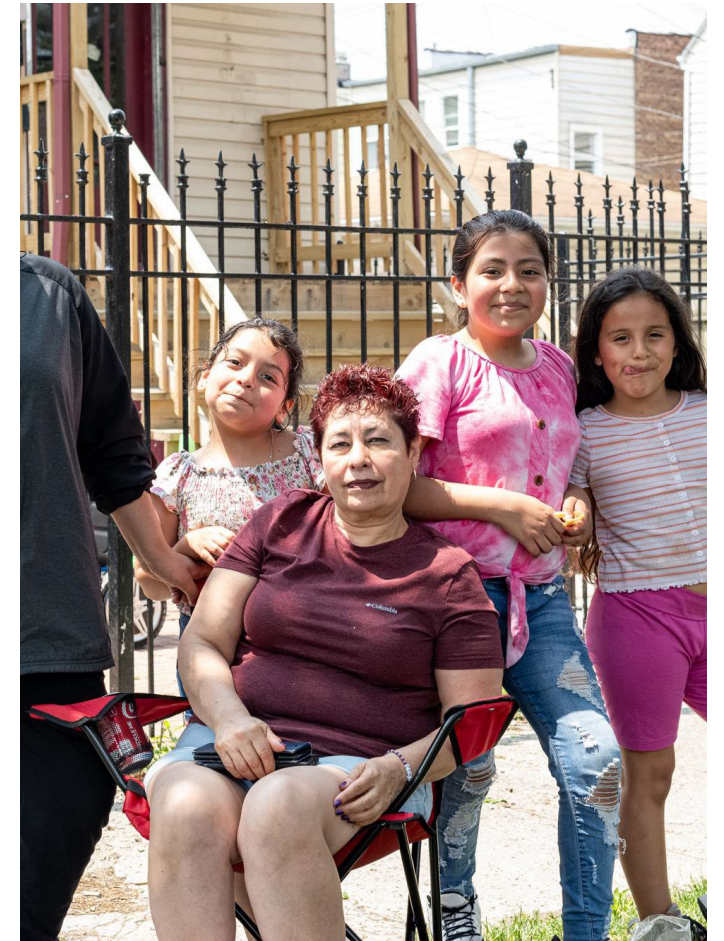
PLAN FOR CHANGE

- Northwest Center is researching nonpolice crisis response to mental health crisis's including the Treatment Not Trauma ordinance.



EQUITY MEASURES

- Northwest Center in partnership with the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Childrens Hospital of Chicago launched a stress indicator survey to 296 respondents. We will be using this as a baseline to track community mental health improvements along with other health indicators in the Chicago Health Atlas.





NORTHWEST CENTER

For the past three years, community health workers have launched intervention pilots across different health areas. More importantly, they have continued to earn the trust of the community and are a needed part of the public health workforce that is here to stay.





NORTHWEST CENTER

In loving memory of
Ruben Olivares

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

NORTHWEST CENTER



Q and A

THANK YOU!



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Frequently Asked Questions



Question: What is the life expectancy gap, and how have life expectancies declined? ★

The life expectancy gap is the difference between how long two groups of people expect to live. Today, the average white Chicagoan lives 10 years longer than the average Black Chicagoan.

On average, Latinx Chicagoans have lost the most years of life expectancy since 2010. And all racial groups except white Chicagoans continue to lose years of life expectancy.

Question: What makes Healthy Chicago's approach different? ★

Healthy Chicago is the movement toward addressing health disparities and improving community health for all Chicagoans. We operate in lockstep with those affected by disparities to ensure power, opportunities and resources where they're most needed.

Frequently Asked Questions



Question: How does Healthy Chicago measure its progress?

Health is something we see and feel in our communities, but it's also measurable. Healthy Chicago regularly collects and compares data and community feedback over time to measure our progress within our seven long-term priority areas. And every 5 years, we publish an updated city-wide plan for collective action.

Question: Who are the community partners involved in Healthy Chicago?

While Healthy Chicago is an initiative of CDPH, our success depends on close collaboration with community leaders—folks living in areas most affected by inequitable health policies who understand the daily reality. 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 equality and better health and wellbeing.

Question: How can I get involved in Healthy Chicago?

We're glad you asked! Visit healthychicago.com/getinvolved for a complete list of resources. It's easy to participate, no matter how much time you can commit.