

Chicago Board of Health
September 15, 2021
Virtual Meeting
By Remote Means

Pursuant to applicable law, the President determined that an in-person meeting was not practical or prudent. Accordingly, attendance at this meeting was via remote means only.

Roll Call

Board Members Present

Carolyn C. Lopez, MD, President
Mathew Davis, MD, MPP
Joel Johnson, MEd
Steve Rothschild, MD
Horace E. Smith, MD
Janet Lin, MD, MPH, MBA
Debra Wesley, MSW

Absent

Rosa E. Martínez Colón, MS
Carmen Vergara, MPH, RN-BSN

For the Department

Allison Arwady, MD, Commissioner, Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH)

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:03 am by Board President, Dr. Carolyn Lopez.

Approval of Minutes: BOH members accepted the August meeting minutes.

Commissioner's Update: Dr. Arwady provided updates on COVID-19 and several CDPH initiatives.

- The annual FLU campaign will launch on September 28th. Each year the department encourages residents to get a FLU shot. This year residents will be able to get both their FLU and COVID-19 shot at the same time. There are numerous events planned throughout the city in collaboration with Aldermanic offices and faith-based institutions. Other partnerships include the City Colleges and Walgreens.
- The Lead Poisoning Prevention and Healthy Homes Program launched a new campaign to increase public awareness about lead hazards on young children, newborns, and unborn babies and the importance of testing. Homes built before 1978 are likely to have lead-based paint that may, over time, cause health problems. The campaign has placed posters outside of convenience stores, CTA buses & trains, and billboards in communities where children are at the highest risk for exposure. Families are encouraged to talk to their doctors about testing their children.

Chicago Board of Health
September 15, 2021
Virtual Meeting
By Remote Means

Pursuant to applicable law, the President determined that an in-person meeting was not practical or prudent. Accordingly, attendance at this meeting was via remote means only.

- The WIC Program, in collaboration with community partners, Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD), Catholic Charities, and Illinois Action for Children, will host an event to open a new clinic on October 6th, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Austin neighborhood. Families will have access to information and the opportunity to sign up for WIC, SNAP, Childcare, and other support services.
- The department launched the new preparedness campaign, “Protect Yourself. Protect Each Other.” The campaign began on September 13th and will run through November 29th. The purpose of the campaign is to educate the public about public health emergency awareness activities and on best practices for dealing with public health emergencies. Community outreach materials are available in six languages: English, Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, Polish, and Tagalog. Target populations include African American, Hispanic, Asian, and Middle Eastern.
- The Crisis Assistance Response and Engagement (CARE) team launched a program on August 30th through a partnership between CDPH, CPD, CFD, OEMC, and the Mayor’s office. The team will respond assist with responding to 911 Mental Health calls. The group consists of CDPH Clinician, Community Paramedic, and CIT Officer. Their purpose is to assess individuals in crisis and provide connections to needed services.

Board President Comments: Dr. Lopez explained the process of designating a person to chair the meeting if she is absent. She will identify the person and communicate with them regarding their availability.

Presentation: An Introduction: New Data Visualization Tool, Nikhil Prachand, MPH, Director of Epidemiology, CDPH: Office of Epidemiology.

Nikhil Prachand provided an overview and live demonstration of the Chicago Health Atlas data visualization tool at www.chicagohealthatlas.org. The City developed this data-driven technology to increase transparency and serve as a user-friendly method for accessing and utilizing data. Since its inception, the tool has undergone several transformative changes to increase the availability of data. It was born in 2012 and amended in 2014 and 2015. The City of Chicago serves as a pioneer in creating and advancing this unique type of data portal. This venture's collaborations include The Chicago Department of Public Health, PHAME Center at UIC, and Metopio.

Public Comments: No public comments were received.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 10:27 am.