INTRODUCTION

Cook County pioneered in the establishment of county health departments in the State of Illinois. The first organized public health work was started in Suburban Cook County on July 1, 1940. A Public Health Unit was established in the Bureau of Public Welfare as a cooperative agency of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, the Illinois Department of Public Health and the U. S. Public Health Service. On December 10, 1945 this Unit was reorganized and established as the Cook County Department of Public Health.

The health department has progressively developed over this short period from a limited nursing service to a total public health program. Charged with the responsibility of safeguarding the health of the people of Suburban Cook County, everyone, regardless of age, race, creed or economic status, is eligible for public health services.

SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY

The Cook County Department of Public Health extends its services to more than 700,000 people in an area of 735 square miles. Since the establishment of the health department ten years ago there has been an increase of 100,000 population in Suburban Cook County. The jurisdiction of the department extends throughout Suburban Cook County with the exception of Evanston, Winnetka, Kenilworth, Glencoe, Oak Park and Stickney.
ADULT HEALTH

EFFECTIVE HEALTH EDUCATION

All good public health work has an educational value, but the one activity specifically designed to interpret public health concepts to the public is health education. Through this means community interest and participation in health activities is encouraged. Every member of the health department staff does health education, endeavoring to keep the public aware of health problems and modern concepts of disease and health.

PLANNING FOR CIVIL DEFENSE

It is during a time of preparedness for emergency that the routine activities of the health department acquire special significance. By planning for adequate sanitation, protecting food and water supplies, preschool and school health services, preventing disease and promoting the health of its citizens, the health department is assuming its role in community planning and preparation for civil defense.

INCREASED LIFE SPAN

Statistics show that the span of life has increased within the past decade. Due to improved diagnostic and new treatment methods a change in emphasis has taken place in public health services. Whereas, in the past, major importance was placed on the control of communicable diseases, now more time is being devoted to the problems of the aged and chronically ill.

EXPANDED CANCER NURSING SERVICE

In February, 1949, expansion of nursing service to cancer patients was made possible through a grant of funds from the Cancer Society and the State Health Department. This service was started on a demonstration basis and later was integrated into the generalized nursing service. A system of early referral for cancer nursing has been developed.

LICENSELING OF NURSING HOMES

Certain institutions are, pursuant to law, inspected annually prior to licensing. These include nursing homes, maternity hospitals and private mental hospitals. Sanitary engineers, nurses and a nutritionist visit the homes regularly in order to check sanitary facilities, to assist in planning for adequate nursing care, and to aid in the planning of menus and food service.
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

THE MATERNAL PROGRAM HAS BEEN DEVELOPED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE FAMILIES IN COOK COUNTY.

One maternal clinic is providing for the physical, emotional and social needs of the pregnant woman and her family through the maternity cycle. Patients register in the maternal clinic much earlier than they did three or four years ago. Individual conferences and expectant mothers’ classes are conducted at the clinic.

Maternal clinic sessions... 24
Attendance .................. 876

BIRTHS REPORTED

Since 1946 births of Suburban Cook County residents have been reported to the department by all hospitals in this and adjacent counties, and by the Chicago Health Department. The average number of babies born a month is more than 1,800.

INFANT CARE

When the mother goes home from the hospital with her new baby, the public health nurse visits her at home. She instructs the mother in handling, bathing, and feeding the baby. During the past year home visits to families with new-born babies have increased, but premature infants and serious health and social problems of the family continue to take precedence in follow-up.
EXPECTANT MOTHERS LEARN ABC'S OF BABY CARE

The expectant parent's educational program, in effect since September 1949, has been successfully demonstrated at MacNeal Memorial Hospital, Berwyn, and St. James Hospital, Chicago Heights, Illinois. The classes are open to all expectant mothers whose physician is on the staff of the hospital and who, upon admission to class, presents a written request from her physician. Classes are held weekly for eight sessions and are taught by public health nurses, a nutritionist and hospital personnel.

A. The importance of wholesome family life is stressed, as well as the physical and emotional changes that occur during pregnancy.

B. Instruction in care of the new-born baby is given through demonstrations, discussions, educational films and pamphlets on infant care.

C. Knowing how to hold and bathe the infant, and prepare the formula is important for it gives the mother confidence in caring for her baby.

PREMATURE BABIES

To save the lives of premature babies, special hospital and nursing care is necessary. Working cooperatively with the County Sheriff's police, the department has arranged to have these babies transported in specially designed incubators any time during the day or night to selected premature centers. These infants received specialized care at the hospital. When returned to the family the need for careful observation continues. Since 1946, when the program was initiated, 434 babies have been reported to the department as under care in premature centers.

CHILD HEALTH CONFERENCES MONTHLY

1940 1950

27 66

MENTAL HEALTH LETTERS

Helpful suggestions about caring for and understanding the new baby are sent monthly to parents of new-born infants. The program has been developed and carried on through the Illinois Mental Health Authority.

At the child health conference each child is given a careful health appraisal by a pediatrician.
School Health

Guidance in healthful living is the main objective of the school health program. In 1940, there were no organized health programs in the schools. In 1950, all schools under the jurisdiction of the health department had initiated in some form programs of health instruction, health services, and healthful school living.

Health Appraisal of School Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>4,313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>8,073</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Physical examinations given in the school on a demonstration basis in 1940 were the start of a health program that has gained momentum. In 1950 the majority of physical examinations were done by the private or school physician with the parent present.

School Health Statistics

- Total number of schools: 169
- Total number of pupils: 30,996
- Pupils Immunized:
  - Diphtheria: 21,583
  - Smallpox: 22,188
  - Tetanus and Whooping Cough: 229
  - Vision tests: 16,576
  - Dental inspections: 20,588
  - Hearing tests: 20,124

Teacher-Parent Workshop

Assistance was given school and community leaders in planning a workshop on the emotional growth and development of the child.

Joint planning for the workshop was done by parents and teachers, together with agency representatives responsible for mental health education.

Community

The workshop served to help teachers and parents better understand the emotional needs of the child and to find ways in which to meet these needs.
BETTER HEALTH PROGRAMS

All school children are given a hearing screening test, and those children showing a hearing loss are referred to an otologist for examination.

The dental health programs conducted in 134 schools consisted of education and inspection of the teeth and mouths of school children.

The Massachusetts Vision Test, an improved technique for school vision screening, is used as a regular part of the school health program.

A vital part of the school health services is accurate recording, since this information will follow the child through his school life.

Teacher-Nurse conferences are a planned part of the school health program. They provide for continuous health guidance for each child.

MORE HOT LUNCH PROGRAMS

Gradually, schools in rural and suburban Cook County are introducing hot lunch programs. Assistance was given 18 schools in 1950 in the selection of equipment for lunchrooms, planning menus, food purchasing and food service.

SCHOOL INSPECTIONS

Heating

Sewage

Water

Ventilation

Lighting

Food Handling Facilities
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

PATTERN OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES HAS CHANGED

New drugs, additional personnel, improved facilities, immunization, environmental sanitation, and public interest have helped to reduce the severity and incidence of many communicable diseases. Major communicable diseases are investigated to determine, if possible, sources of infection and to see that contacts are protected. Demonstration and instruction in nursing care is given in the home to the family and patient.

MAJOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES REPORTED IN 1950-1949

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>1950</th>
<th>1949</th>
<th>1950</th>
<th>1949</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal Bites</td>
<td>476</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickenpox</td>
<td>1,038</td>
<td>1,830</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diphtheria</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gonorrhea</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measles</td>
<td>1,739</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meningitis (all types)</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumps</td>
<td>637</td>
<td>973</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poliomyelitis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarlet Fever</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smallpox</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syphilis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuberculosis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typhoid Fever (Paratyphoid)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whooping Cough</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VENereal Disease

A better informed public and the advent of penicillin has decreased the incidence of venereal disease. The plan in Cook County for the control of venereal diseases includes finding and treating infectious cases, preventing the spread of these diseases, and community education to inform people about the prevention, treatment, and cure of venereal diseases.

Clinic sessions........... 520
Attendance..............3,475

Tuberculosis

Marked impetus has been given to the tuberculosis control program as a result of the organization of the Suburban Cook County Tuberculosis Sanitarium District in 1949, and a closer working relationship established with the Tuberculosis Institute of Chicago and Cook County. There are now increased facilities for finding cases, providing medical treatment, nursing care, out-patient care and hospitalization for tuberculous patients.

Chest X-rays.............62,235

Immunization

A significant decline in the cases and deaths due to communicable diseases has occurred since the organization of the health department. Immunization and education have been the weapons used in preventing the spread of common communicable diseases. Where heavy floods may cause contamination of drinking water typhoid fever immunization clinics are planned annually.
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

ALERT FOR SANITATION

Clean surroundings help to preserve human life. Environmental sanitation is the public health term for the clean home, the clean farm, the clean business and industry, the clean neighborhood, and the clean community.

CONTROL OF LIVESTOCK DISEASES

In 1950, the services of a veterinarian were added to the health department staff. The program includes the control and eradication of livestock diseases and guarding against the introduction and spread of infection among livestock herds in Cook County. An effective program assists in controlling certain diseases such as brucellosis and tuberculosis which are a threat to human health.

CLEANER TRAILER CAMPS

During 1950 the Tourist Camp Operating Ordinance, passed during 1948, has been actively enforced. Regular or temporary permits were issued to 70 camps, together with reports on complete sanitation inspections. Those reports listed necessary improvements to be made at each camp. Court action was taken against several camps which had failed to comply.

PURE WATER

The Division of Sanitary Engineering has continued to administer a program for collection, analysis and reporting of results of water samples from private and public water supplies and swimming pools. Approximately 5,000 samples per year are received at the laboratory. An analysis report is more than a statement that the water submitted was safe or unsafe. It also advises the well owner or the water superintendent, just what improvements must be made to protect and assure the quality of the water supply.
SERVICES

Regular and emergency inspections at:
81 public water supplies
13 public sewage treatment plants
84 cabin and trailer camps
60 swimming pools
63 institutions (maternity hospitals, nursing homes, child welfare homes, private mental homes)
286 public and parochial elementary schools
35 public and parochial secondary schools

Inspections made during 1930 upon receipt of request or complaint:
581 sanitary nuisances
109 private water supply or sewage disposal systems

Administration of program for collection of samples, interpretation of laboratory results and preparation of reports:
3,047 samples from public water supply systems
442 samples from swimming pools
858 samples from private and Forest Preserve wells
30 samples from schools

Samples of milk from 170 producers supplying milk to dairy plants (Grade A—pasteurized) collected monthly.

Samples of milk from 14 dairy plants (Grade A—pasteurized) collected monthly, or oftener as necessary, directly from delivery trucks.

Veterinary Services:
2,980 cattle tested for brucellosis
1,377 calves vaccinated against brucellosis
12,958 cattle tested for tuberculosis

Other Services:
133 sets of plans for public institutional or private water supply and sewage disposal improvements reviewed
1,808 conferences relative to environmental sanitation problems.
The Exceptional Child

Progressively over the past ten years a new series of services for the handicapped child has been inaugurated with the cooperation of voluntary and other official agencies.

Two physical therapists working under the direction of an orthopedic physician give after-care and treatment to poliomyelitis, orthopedic and cerebral palsy patients.

Diagnostic Clinic

In 1943 diagnostic services for handicapped children were initiated. Three clinic centers are located in Glenview, Evergreen Park, and Chicago Heights.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Physical Therapy Treatment Center

In 1945 the first physical therapy treatment center was established. Special care is given in the home or at the center to help prevent unnecessary crippling, build strong muscles, and correct postural defects. In 1950 there were six treatment centers (Glenview, Evergreen Park, Berwyn, Maywood, Harvey, Chicago Heights).

| Attendance | 1,283 |

Rheumatic Fever Clinic

In 1948 the rheumatic fever clinic was opened. Here patients with suspicious rheumatic fever and congenital heart disease are examined. All cases are referred by a physician.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cerebral Palsy Clinic

In 1950 the treatment of selected pre-school children with cerebral palsy was started.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FIELD SERVICES

1 — CHICAGO
Central Administrative Office
737 South Wolcott Avenue
Chesapeake 3-5833

2 — DESPlainES
North District Office
Physical Therapy Treatment Center
1044 Lee Street
Vanderbilt 4-8182

3 — GLENVIEW
Crippled Children's Diagnostic Clinic
1930 Prairie Avenue
Glenview 1700

4 — MATWOOD
West District Office
Venereal Disease Clinic
Physical Therapy Treatment Center
1900 St. Charles Road
Maywood 6052

5 — BERWYN
Venereal Disease Clinic
Physical Therapy Treatment Center
6600 West 26th Street
Stanley 6600

6 — EVERGREEN PARK
South District Office
Physical Therapy Treatment Center
3411 West 95th Street
Crippled Children's Diagnostic Clinic
2800 West 95th Street
Evergreen Park 7424

7 — ROBBINS
Venereal Disease Clinic
Maternal Clinic
Tuberculosis Clinic
139 and St. Louis Avenue
Blue Island 4251

8 — HARVEY
South District Office
Venereal Disease Clinic
Cerebral Palsy Clinic
Physical Therapy Treatment Center
15430 Park Avenue
Harvey 6

9 — CHICAGO HEIGHTS
Venereal Disease Clinic
Physical Therapy Treatment Center
Crippled Children's Diagnostic Clinic
Rheumatic Fever Clinic
1423 Chicago Road
Chicago Heights 3200

SPECIAL SERVICES

- Premarital blood tests (not including venereal disease) ........................................... 460
- Special marriage permits issued ................................................................................. 142
- Protective immunization and certification for foreign travel ...................................... 301

FIELD TRAINING FOR PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL

- Medical students (3 months) .... 2
- Public health nurses (4 months) ... 3
- Public health nurses (2 months) ... 12
- Public health educators (3 months) . 2
- Student dietitians (2 days) .......... 24

NUTRITION SERVICES

- Home calls and office visits .................. 258
- Rheumatic fever clinic ...................... 165
- Planning Programs ......................... 38

HEALTH EDUCATION SERVICES

- Film showings .................................. 98
- Pamphlets ...................................... 12,348
- Posters ........................................ 210
- Radio programs ............................... 10
- Exhibits ........................................ 22
- Planning programs ......................... 23
- School health council meetings .......... 9

HOME AND OFFICE VISITS BY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES

- Communicable diseases .................. 4,918
- Venereal Diseases ......................... 837
- Tuberculosis ................................. 7,900
- Maternal ..................................... 3,447
- Infant ........................................ 4,720
- Preschool .................................... 2,250
- School ........................................ 17,384
- Morbidity .................................... 3,028
- Physical Therapy ........................... 1,955
- Dental ........................................ 430
BUDGET

DISTRIBUTION OF COOK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT DOLLAR

NURSING 40.4%
HEALTH EDUCATION 1.3%
VETERINARY 1.4%
NUTRITION 1.3%
TRANSPORTATION 13.5%
SANITARY ENGINEERING 10.2%
SUPPLIES AND RENT 9.2%
MEDICAL 9.5%
ADMINISTRATION AND CLERICAL 13.2%

$215,842
$144,759
$17,541
TOTAL $378,142

COOK COUNTY
STATE—FEDERAL
OTHER

COOPERATING AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Chicago Hearing Society
Chicago Dental Society
Chicago Medical Society
Community Fund of Chicago
Illinois Association for the Crippled
Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers
Illinois Department of Public Health
Illinois Society for Mental Hygiene
Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness
National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Cook County Chapter
The Suburban Cook County Tuberculosis Sanitarium District
Tuberculosis Institute of Chicago and Cook County
University of Illinois, Division of Services for Crippled Children
Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago
THE STAFF

ADMINISTRATION

Director ................................................................. John R. Hall, M.D., M.P.H.
Administrative Secretary ................................. A. Victoria Kossak
Administrative Clerk ................................. Milton Breault
Receptionist ............................................................ Bess Bezemek

DIVISION OF HEALTH EDUCATION

Chief ................................................................. Irene Fahey, Ph.B., M.P.H.
Secretary ................................................................. Barbara Mam

MEDICAL DIVISION OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

Chief ................................................................. Robert Dessert, M.D., M.P.H.
Public Health Veterinarian ........................................... Clarence B. Hostetler, D.V.M.
Secretaries

Lorraine Johnson
Mildred Coughlin
Patricia Kenealy

Cooperating Clinicians

Emile J. Bunata, M.D. ........................................ Hugo Long, M.D.
M. C. Higgins, M.D. ........................................ W. M. Winston, M.D.
W. H. Young, M.D.

Cooperating Pediatricians

Ira Ludwig, M.D. ........................................ Ann C. Leonard, M.D.
George S. Frauenberger, M.D. ........................................ M. Mrozek, M.D.
Herbert Grossman, M.D. ........................................ F. Kursner, M.D.
Mildred Jackson, M.D. ........................................ B. Neuman, M.D.

Cooperating Obstetricians

Ernest Brandsted, M.D. ........................................ O. R. Ennis, M.D.
Mary J. Otten, M.D. ........................................ R. R. Whitlock, M.D.
Stark Williams, M.D.

DIVISION OF NUTRITION

Chief ................................................................. Lillian Nash, B.S., M.S.
Secretary ................................................................. Donna Kenealy

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Chief ................................................................. Madeleine Roesler, R.N., Ph. B., M.A.
Assistant Chief ................................................................. Thelma Cline, R.N., Ph. B., B.S.
Supervisor, Maternal Program ........................................ Mabel Murray, R.N., B.S.
Orthopedic Nurse ................................................................. Esther Dahlstrom, R.N., R.T.
District Supervisor ................................................................. Bridget M. Campbell, R.N., B.S.
District Supervisor ................................................................. Sibyl C. Davis, R.N., B.S., M.A.
District Supervisor ................................................................. Ether Doyle, R.N., B.S.
District Supervisor ................................................................. Edith Nyden, R.N., B.S.

District Staff Nurses

Irene Baker, R.N.* ........................................ Mary Flynn, R.N.*
Lorraine Bertolini, R.N. ........................................ Irene Gregg, R.N., B.S.
Caroline Blankshain, R.N., B.S ........................................ June Hall, R.N., B.S.*
Gladyse Bruce, R.N., B.S. ........................................ Ella Hamon, R.N., B.S.
Helen Burgh, R.N. ........................................ Edith Heide, R.N.
Ludlila Bauskis, R.N., M.A ........................................ Margaret Hogan, R.N., B.S.
Virginia Davis, R.N., B.S. ........................................ Margaret Holahan, R.N.
Marcella Drake, R.N., B.S. ........................................ Margaret Kielhus, R.N.
Leila Ehrenstrom, R.N., B.S. ........................................ Evelyn Kuehnle, R.N.
Leila Fezor, R.N. ........................................ Marion Larson, R.N., B.S.

Secretaries

Mossie Perry
Mary Louise Murphy
Sylvia McKirney
Rose Keenan
Ellen Kemeay
Catherine Luccas
Coral Chandler
Estie Hanlon

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION OF SANITARY ENGINEERING

Chief ................................................................. Benn J. Leland, B.S., M.S.

District Engineers

Robert R. de Jonge, B.S. ........................................ Steven W. Nich, B.S.
Nicholas A. Bilandic, B.S. ........................................ Cecil W. Browning, B.S., M.S.
Assistant District Engineers

Arthur F. Vanderlick, B.S. ........................................ Robert J. Wallachleger, B.S., M.S.
Sanitarians

Joseph W. Ghee
Sanitarians

John F. Schulte

* Military Leave  ** Sick Leave  *** Educational Leave
1. William N. Erickson, President
2. Arthur X. Brod
3. Daniel Ryan
4. Elizabeth A. Conkey, Secretary
5. Richard J. Daley, Clerk
6. Clayton F. Smith
7. James F. Ashenden
8. Edward M. Sneed
9. Frank Bobrytke
10. John Mackler
11. George A. Miller
12. John E. Traeger
13. George F. Nixon
14. William Busse
15. Christ A. Jensen
16. Mario Tonelli
17. John J. Duffy

* Term of office ended—Nov. 30, 1950
** Term of office began—Dec. 1, 1950