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Press Release

Cook County Launches Opioid Story Map for Awareness Day
Public health and technology join forces to share data, resources and stories

In honor of Opioid Awareness Day, tomorrow, August 31, Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH), is announcing the release of an interactive Opioid Story Map, developed in partnership with Cook County Bureau of Technology.

"The Opioid Story Map tells the story of opioids in suburban Cook County," said CCDPH Chief Operating Officer Dr. Terry Mason. "It is a sad, but hopeful story. Opioid overdose deaths are preventable and help is available – whether it's for you, a family member or a friend."

Explore the data. The Opioid Story Map provides numbers, rates and trends of opioid-involved deaths by drug type, location, gender, and race/ethnicity.

Consistent with national trends, between 2010 and 2017: Opioid-involved overdose deaths increased across the jurisdiction, all age and gender groups and people of color.

"Fentanyl is especially concerning," said Dr. Mason. "Fentanyl-involved deaths more than quadrupled in suburban Cook County, going from 33 in 2015 to 202 in 2017.

Get help. The Opioid Story Map shows where to go for:

- Safe disposal of prescription drugs

- Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) facilities

- Naloxone: A medication that reverses the effects of opioids, like heroin, fentanyl and hydrocodone, and saves lives.

Hear the Voices of Chicagoland's Opioid Crisis featured on WBEZ.
Opioid stories feature a former heroin addict, a mother, a doctor, a halfway house co-founder and a recovery program.

Click here to view the Cook County Opioid Story Map: http://bit.ly/3OIq1bm.

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