



Cook County
Department of Public Health

Health is our concern

REPORT OF SERVICE 1981

A REPORT OF SERVICE – 81
COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

In 1981, under the leadership of Dr. Karen L. Scott, Medical Director, the Cook County Department of Public Health has strived to carry out its function of the prevention of illness and the promotion of personal and community health.

CCDPH service programs include:

Communicable disease control, environmental health, preventive health care for mothers and children, chronic disease control (includes limited home health care), dental health, health education and information, nutrition counseling and birth and death registration.

STAFF

CCDPH is staffed by community health specialists who meet education and experience qualifications established by the Illinois Department of Public Health . . . physicians, dentists, dental assistants, public health nurses, nurse practitioners, sanitarians, engineers, inspectors, nutritionists, physical therapists, public health educators, vision and hearing technicians, epidemiologists and clerical staff.

SERVICE AREA

CCDPH serves 89% of the suburban Cook County population or approximately 1,998,642 people. Four other State-recognized Health Departments serve the suburban residents who live in Evanston, Winnetka, Glencoe, Skokie, Stickney and Oak Park.

The Department compliments and supplements the work of municipal health departments and township health services. Most of these provide environmental health services within their jurisdiction but few provide personal health services.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

The spread of communicable diseases is prevented by epidemiological investigations and the application of appropriate prevention techniques.

- In 1981, the spread of meningococcal meningitis in two day-care centers was curtailed by chemoprophylaxis given to exposed children.
- Twelve persons were treated with rabies vaccine after they had been bitten by animals likely to be carrying rabies disease. The new human diploid cell vaccine, which is highly protective and has fewer side effects, was used.
- In cooperation with the environmental health personnel, two outbreaks of salmonellosis were controlled by emergency restaurant inspections and the institution of improved food preparation and storage techniques.
- The incidence of the vaccine-preventable diseases reached an all-time low. This is the result of working closely with school authorities to ensure that all school children are properly immunized. Over 200 school nurses attended an immunization workshop.
- A seminar on the control of sexually transmissible disease was conducted for local health professionals.

CHRONIC DISEASE AND DISABILITY CONTROL

Efforts are made to detect chronic diseases at an early stage, refer the patients to early and on-going treatment and to limit disability caused by these diseases.

- In 1981 changes occurred in the home care program as the Department phased out its Medicare Home Care Service. This was done because many private community agencies were adequately providing the service. Cook County Department of Public Health continues to be a licensed Home Care Agency.
- The hypertension control and follow-up program was greatly expanded in 1981. Two community coordinating councils were organized to help the

department sponsor local hypertension screening programs. Health Department nurses were trained by the Chicago Heart Association to teach lay persons how to take blood pressures. With cooperation of the health education staff, community training packets were developed including a slide presentation. An extensive follow-up system has been established to make sure that identified hypertensives maintain on-going treatment.

- The pre-school Vision and Hearing screening program was transferred to Cook County Department of Public Health by the Illinois Department of Public Health in the fall of 1981.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

The provision of preventive health services to mothers and children is accomplished through established health programs including well child care, prenatal care, family planning services, school health services, and follow-up of special high risk cases.

In 1981 the increasing need for well child care resulted in the opening of clinics in Maywood and Chicago Heights.

In an attempt to improve pregnancy outcome the Department, with a grant from Illinois Department of Public Health, established a Maternity Services Project. Highlights of the project have included:

1. Expanded prenatal clinic hours at the clinic jointly sponsored by Westlake Hospital and the Department.
2. Improved coordination between the prenatal services at the Department's Alsip clinic and the delivery services at Cook County Hospital.
3. Developed group prenatal education at the Alsip clinic.
4. Developed and distributed a flyer on the importance of early prenatal care and prenatal resources.

The Markham family planning clinic was expanded from bi-weekly to weekly clinic sessions.

In cooperation with the Health Education staff, a new flyer was designed and distributed to suburban hospitals' obstetrical departments called "Message to Parents". This flyer orients new parents to the need for preventive health services for their babies. Over 7500 flyers were distributed in 1981.

The Department developed a school health committee to coordinate school health services. Representatives of the Cook County Educational Service Region and Illinois Department of Public Health are members of the committee.

DENTAL HEALTH

Preventive and primary dental care is given at clinics. The State fluoride rinse program in schools is supported and encouraged. Oral hygiene is promoted in well child clinics and prenatal clinics.

In 1981 a reorganization of the dental health program was undertaken. In attempting to have clinics in too many communities it became impossible to adequately equip each site. Without proper equipment, little dental care could be given. Out of 11 sites, 3 well-equipped clinics were established. These clinics now provide a full array of preventive and primary dental care for financially-eligible persons of all age groups 5 days a week.

Prenatal clinic patients are referred to the dental clinic. The importance of dental health and care during pregnancy is stressed.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The environmental health programs are designed to protect the citizens from disease spread by food, water, wastes, rodents and insects. This is done through a system of inspection, licensing, issuing permits, reviewing plans and investigation and correction of complaints.

- In 1981 the Cook County Board approved an updated food handling ordinance and a new ordinance to regulate retail food stores.

- A special campaign to improve solid waste disposal in trailer parks was conducted which resulted in improved conditions.
- Seventy-eight (78) swimming pools were closed until a health hazard was corrected and a reinspection made. Common problems encountered were lack of sufficient residual disinfectant and malfunctioning pump filters.
- The Department began the standardization of environmental health supervisory personnel with the very strict requirements of the Food and Drug Act. This complex standardization procedure is conducted on an individual basis by the Illinois Department of Public Health, State Evaluation Officer and is intended to help health departments achieve a greater overall effectiveness in food sanitation programs.
- In an attempt to correct an environmental health hazard, it is occasionally necessary to take legal action to enforce compliance. In 1981 20 cases were referred to the State's Attorney's Office. Nine of the cases have been dismissed after correction of the health hazards. The remaining 11 cases are still pending and will be followed to resolution.

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

All of the Department's health programs have an educational component. The community health educators assist in the planning and implementation of the educational components, including production of materials and audio-visual aids.

In addition to the educational function, the educator assesses community health needs and helps in coordinating community health resources.

The staff is responsible for the marketing of the Agency's programs through the media and community organizations.

NUTRITION

Nutrition counseling and education is an integral part of the Maternal and Child Health and the Chronic Disease and Disability control programs. In addition

to counseling clients the nutritionists provide frequent in-service for the public health nursing staff.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

The public health nurse is the basic unit of the personal health programs. Nurses implement programs in the community. They staff clinics, make numerous home and school visits. Their knowledge of the communities makes them invaluable in planning programs, case-finding and keeping updated information on community resources.

BIRTH AND DEATH REGISTRATION

As the official registration district for most of suburban Cook County, The Department has access to birth and death certificates for the purpose of studying various health problems. This assists the Department in planning health programs.

REFUGEE HEALTH SCREENING

In 1981 an Indochinese refugee health screening program was initiated. This program is the combined effort of the Suburban Cook County TB Sanitarium District, the Loyola Stritch School of Medicine, and the Health Department.

Each refugee is screened for communicable diseases and other health problems. Referral is made for treatment of identified problems and also for needed preventive health services.

BUDGET

Cook County	\$2,665,954.00
Illinois Department of Public Health ..	595,000.00
GRANTS:	
Family Planning	82,600.00
Vision and Hearing	30,000.00
Maternal Health	56,000.00
Title XX	
(Health Support & Epidemiological	
Services)	38,000.00
Hypertension Control	46,948.00
Total Budget	<u>\$3,514,502.00</u>

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Administration

Medical Director Karen L. Scott, M.D., M.P.H.

Preventive Medicine and Epidemiology

Director Shirley Kellie, M.D., M.Sc.

Maternal and Child Health

Director Nan Koh, M.D., M.P.H.

Public Health Nursing

Director Elaine Nemoto, R.N., M.A.

Education and Information

Director Addie C. Reninger, B.S., M.P.H.

Nutrition

Director Elisa Ramilla, R.D., M.S.

Dental Health

Director Timothy Canty, DDS., M.P.H.

Environmental Health

Director Robert J. Wollschlager, B.S., M.S.

Vital Statistics

Director Vacant

COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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REPORT OF SERVICE

PEOPLE

*Population	2,035,699
*Live Births	
Total	29,387
Births to Teens (Under 20 years)	2,534
*Deaths	
All ages	16,404
Total infants	372
Under 28 days	284
*CCDPH Jurisdiction	
U.S. BUREAU OF CENSUS (1980 Totals)	

TEN LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH

1. Cardiovascular Diseases	8,401
2. Cancer	3,820
3. All Accidents	590
Motor Vehicle	295
Other accidents	295
4. Pneumonia and Influenza	437
5. Congenital Anomalies and Diseases of Early Infancy	332
6. Diabetes	272
7. Cirrhosis of Liver	267
8. Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease	261
9. Suicide	186
10. Homicide	129

SELECTED REPORTED AND INVESTIGATED DISEASES

Encephalitis	16
Giardiasis	40
Hepatitis A and unknown B	74
Legionnaires' Disease	67
Malaria	5
Measles	10
Meningitis	9
Pertussis	171
Rubella	4
Salmonellosis	24
Shigellosis	267
Typhoid	94
Rabies	4
Venereal Diseases	0
Gonorrhea	3,296
Syphilis	105

NURSING SERVICES

Persons admitted to service (new)	4,187
Visits to individuals	15,681
Home Care Visits	5,690
Physical Therapy Visits	223

NURSING SERVICES GIVEN TO SCHOOLS

Public	4
Non-public	106
Nursing Visits to Schools	1,368

VISION AND HEARING CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

HEARING CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Screening	24,154
Re-screening	888
Referrals	278
Pre-school Screening	952
Pre-school Re-screening	86
Pre-school Referrals	21

VISION CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Screening	18,673
Referrals	1,358
Pre-school screening	847
Pre-school referrals	10

RHEUMATIC FEVER

Total active cases in registry	289
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TUBERCULOSIS

New cases	131
Active cases under investigation	572
Visits to diagnosed cases and contacts	687

CLINIC SERVICES

DENTAL CLINICS

Clinic Sites	4
Patient Services	21,024

FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS

Clinic Sites	4
Sessions	144
Visits to Clinic	4,829

IMMUNIZATION CLINICS

Clinic Sites	11
Sessions	105
Immunizations given	20,811

MATERNAL CLINICS

Clinic Sites	4
Sessions	97
Visits to Clinic	2,276

WELL BABY CLINICS

Clinic Sites	16
Sessions	244
Visits to clinic	7,346
Immunizations administered	8,334

OTOLOGIC CLINICS

Sessions	12
Persons examined	223

STD CLINICS

Clinic Sites	3
Sessions	247
Persons examined	4,741

VITAL RECORDS FILED

Total	26,823
Live births	17,317
Deaths	9,384
Fetal Deaths	122

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Swimming Pool Water Analysis	360
Private	10
Public: Indoor	150
Public: Outdoor	200
Swimming Pools Inspected	1,378
Swimming Pool Plans Approved	23
Private	23
Public	0
Septic Tank & Seepage System Applications	
Processed	145
Approved	68
Subdivision Plans	
Approved	3
FHA evaluations	173
Mobile Home Parks	
Mobile Home Park Plans Approved	1
Inspections	196
Licensed	44
Motels	
Inspected	69
Licensed	15
Food Service Establishments	
Inspected	794
Licensed	213
Solid Waste Survey (Uninc. Area)	32
Solid Waste Inventory (Uninc. Area)	55
Solid Waste Inventory (Incorporated Area)	123
Lake and Stream Pollution Investigations	14
Private Water Analysis Reports	1,410
Private Wells Inspected	583
Nuisance Complaints	
Received	483
Investigated	2,280
Rodent Control Investigation	80
Abandoned Wells Sealed	14

COOK COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
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