

# CCDPH School Health Meeting

September 19, 2025



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT. of  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**

The slide features a decorative border on a light blue grid background. The border includes illustrations of a yellow school bus in the top-left and bottom-right corners, a pair of blue-handled scissors on the top-right and bottom-left, and various colored pencils (green, yellow, orange, purple, blue, red) and red apples with green leaves. A red dashed line runs horizontally across the top and bottom, and vertically down the sides, framing the central text.

# Agenda

- **Welcome & Housekeeping**
- **Announcements, Resources & Events**
- **CCDPH Vaccine Clinic Announcements**
- **CCDPH Communicable Disease Updates**
- **Proviso Township High School**
- **Chicago Food Policy Action Council (CFPAC)**
- **Adjournment**



**COOK COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH  
OFFERS ITS  
HEARTFELT  
CONDOLENCES TO  
LINCOLN MIDDLE  
SCHOOL IN  
BERWYN ON THE  
LOSS OF THEIR  
ASSISTANT  
PRINCIPAL  
NERISSA LEE**



**COOK COUNTY  
HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT  
of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**

# CCDPH

# School Health Meeting

## Meeting Objectives

- **Stay Informed:** Get the most up-to-date information and guidance to navigate issues related to health and wellness.
- **Resource Sharing:** Access valuable tools, resources and events in our communities.
- **Community Support:** Connect with peers to keep your staff, students, and families safe and healthy.



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**



# **\*\*HOUSEKEEPING\*\***

- ✓ Please let us know if you have any specific access needs(e.g., transcription, etc.)
- ✓ Please keep your line muted
- ✓ Feel free to put any questions in the chat

All Webinars are being recorded and will be uploaded to our [Website](#) and to CCDPH's [YouTube Page](#)



## **Cook County Department of Public Health**

@cookcountydepartmentofpubl4930 • 217 subscribers • 248 videos

The Cook County Department of Public Health is the public health authority for most of su...more

[cookcountypublichealth.org](http://cookcountypublichealth.org)

Subscribe

# Announcements



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT  
of  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**

# Announcements

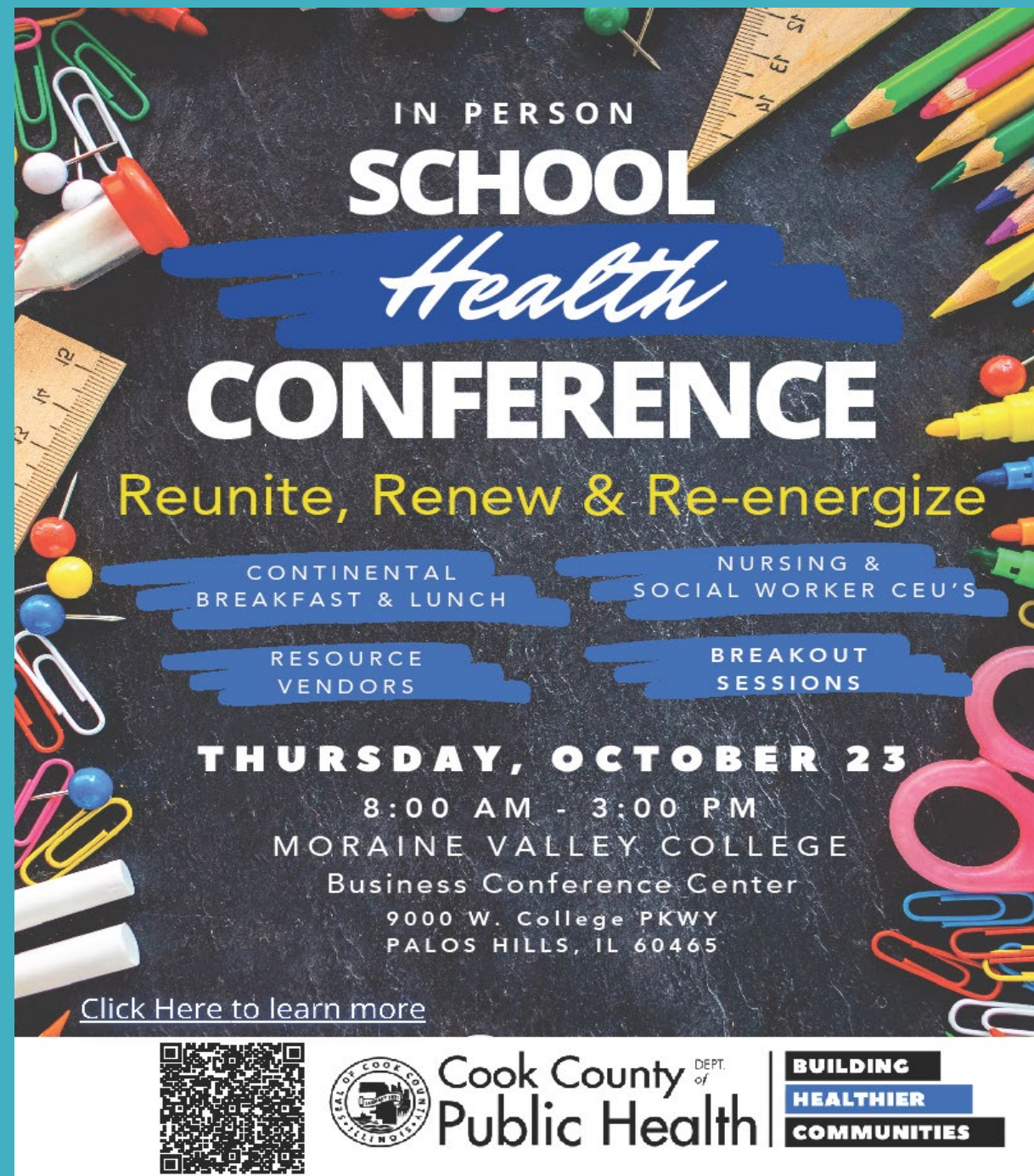
- Registration for the next series of Monthly School Health Meetings will be updated soon
- Sign up to receive the School Newsletter: [Sign up to receive our School Newsletter](#)





**Announcement!!!**

[School Health Conference Registration Link](#)



IN PERSON  
**SCHOOL**  
*Health*  
**CONFERENCE**

Reunite, Renew & Re-energize

CONTINENTAL  
BREAKFAST & LUNCH



NURSING &  
SOCIAL WORKER CEU'S

RESOURCE  
VENDORS

BREAKOUT  
SESSIONS

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23**  
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
MORAIN VALLEY COLLEGE  
Business Conference Center  
9000 W. College PKWY  
PALOS HILLS, IL 60465

[Click Here to learn more](#)



Cook County DEPT. of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT. of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**

# Contact CCDPH

## Webinar Related Questions/General Questions

- CCDPH Healthy Cook General Email: [healthycook@cookcountyhhs.org](mailto:healthycook@cookcountyhhs.org)

## Line Lists/Reporting Communicable Diseases/Metrics Questions

- CCDPH Communicable Disease Reporting Email: [ccdph\\_schools@cookcountyhhs.org](mailto:ccdph_schools@cookcountyhhs.org)
- **CCDPH Website:** <https://cookcountypublichealth.org/>
- **CCDPH School Page:** [School Health - Cook County Department of Public Health \(cookcountypublichealth.org\)](https://cookcountypublichealth.org/school-health)
- **Asthma and Allergy Resources for Suburban Cook Schools**
  - Website Link: <https://cookcountypublichealth.org/school-asthma-allergy-resources/>
  - [School Request for Undesignated Medication Prescription and Standing Order](#)
- **CCDPH COVID-19 Vaccine Website:** [vaccine.cookcountyil.gov](https://vaccine.cookcountyil.gov)



# CCDPH Resources



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT  
of  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**



# CCDPH Asthma and Allergy Resources for Suburban Cook Schools

- **Kelly is no longer the contact for Prescription Requests**
- **Overview:** CCDPH has updated our school request process for undesignated medication (epinephrine/asthma) prescription and standing orders to make it more efficient for school nurses.
- **What's New**
  - CCDPH webpage with additional resources: <https://cookcountypublichealth.org/school-asthma-allergy-resources/>
  - New online school request form: [School Request for Undesignated Medication Prescription and Standing Order](#)
  - Submit all questions to our NEW email address: [CCDPHUndesignatedMedication@cookcountyhhs.org](mailto:CCDPHUndesignatedMedication@cookcountyhhs.org)





# Other Epi-Pen and Albuterol Resources



**RESCUE**

Resources for Every School Confronting  
Unexpected Emergencies



RESCUE Illinois Schools is an asthma intervention program for schools administered by the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America – Midstates Chapter through the generous support of the Illinois Department of Human Services

80 percent of schools are eligible for

- Metered Dose Inhalers
- Chambers
- Disposable Spacers
- Peak Flow Meters
- Other educational resources!

For more information, contact  
Naomi Soto: [nsoto@aafastl.org](mailto:nsoto@aafastl.org)



**COOK COUNTY**  
**HEALTH**



Cook County DEPT. of  
Public Health



# Naloxone Requests

## Naloxone Requests through CCDPH

Denise Holman, MPH

Opioid Health Educator, Community Behavioral Health Unit

[denise.holman@cookcountyhealth.org](mailto:denise.holman@cookcountyhealth.org)

**Naloxone Request Form:** <https://bit.ly/neednaloxone>



**COOK COUNTY**  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**

# CCDPH – Nursing

- Vision and Hearing Screening Program
  - As of September 2024, CCDPH has restarted the screening program for hearing and vision of preschool children ages 3-5 years old. The application is available on CCDPH's website at [Vision and Hearing Screening - Cook County Department of Public Health](#).
  - Our program conducts comprehensive vision and hearing screening for preschool children ages 3-5 years old within the suburban communities of Cook County in all public, private and parochial schools.
    - Screening services include the identification, testing, evaluation, and follow up services
    - Provide necessary referral services based on the evaluation results
  - For any additional questions, please contact us at [visionandhearing@cookcountyhealth.org](mailto:visionandhearing@cookcountyhealth.org)



# Other Vaccination Resources

- Mobile Care Chicago Vaccination Program
  - Kamari Thompson [Chicago-kthompson@mobilecarefoundation.org](mailto:Chicago-kthompson@mobilecarefoundation.org)
- Advocate Children's Hospital and Ronald McDonald Mobile Vaccine Program
  - Amy Moses [amy.moses@aah.org](mailto:amy.moses@aah.org)
- Med ADVO-C Mobilized Healthcare Services
  - April McMurray-White [aprilmcmwhite@medadvoc.com](mailto:aprilmcmwhite@medadvoc.com)
- Loyola Medicine Pediatric Mobile Health Unit
- IDPH Wellness on Wheels Request Form
- Jewel-Osco School Clinics



# Mental Health Resources



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT  
of  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**



# EASILY ACCESSIBLE MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

## SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY

Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) has listed some easily accessible local and national mental health resources. CCDPH encourages all community members to take advantage of these resources for support.

### MENTAL HEALTH HOTLINES

The following helplines provide free mental health services in Suburban Cook County or across the country and are available in English and Spanish:

#### **988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline**

If you or someone you know is having thoughts of suicide or experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis, 988 provides a connection to free, confidential support.

- Call: 988. Press 2 to reach Spanish-speaking counseling
- Text: 988. Text "Ayuda" or chat online at [988lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org)
- Hours: 24/7

#### **NAMI Chicago Helpline**

Whether seeking help for yourself or for someone else the NAMI Helpline is a free and confidential resource that provides a listening ear, guidance and connection to the right mental health and social service resources, over the phone.

- Call: 833-NAMI-CHI (626-4244). Ask to speak with a Spanish speaking counselor
- Hours: Monday-Friday, 9AM-8PM, Saturday and Sunday 9AM-5PM

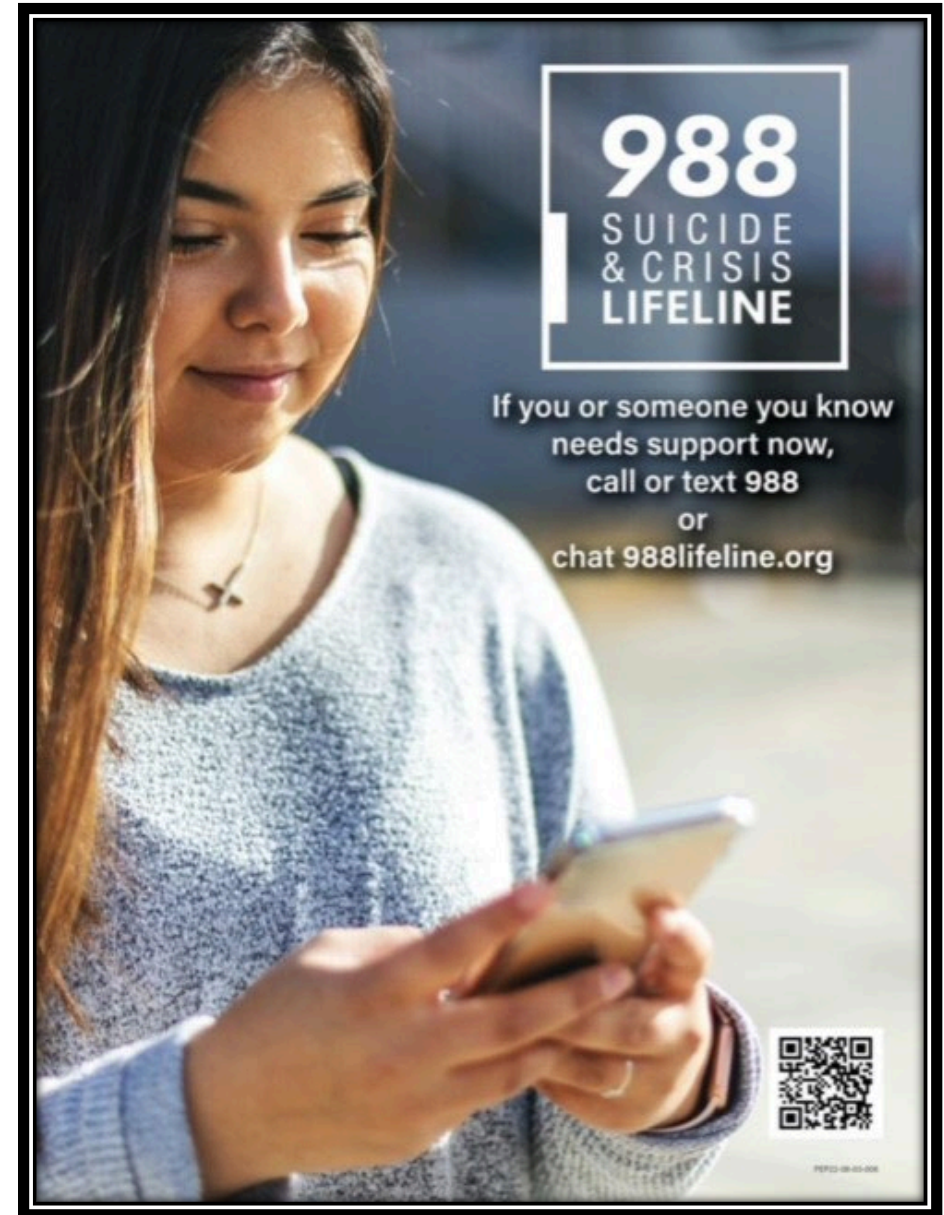
#### **The Trevor Project**

The Trevor Project is the leading suicide prevention and crisis intervention nonprofit organization for LGBTQ+ young people. They provide information & support to LGBTQ+ young people all year round.

- Text: For Spanish messaging text "Comenzar" by Whatsapp using the number 55-9225-3337 or use the chat feature on the website at [trevorproject.org](https://trevorproject.org).
- Hours: 24/7



# 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline



**COOK COUNTY**  
**HEALTH**



Cook County DEPT. of  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**



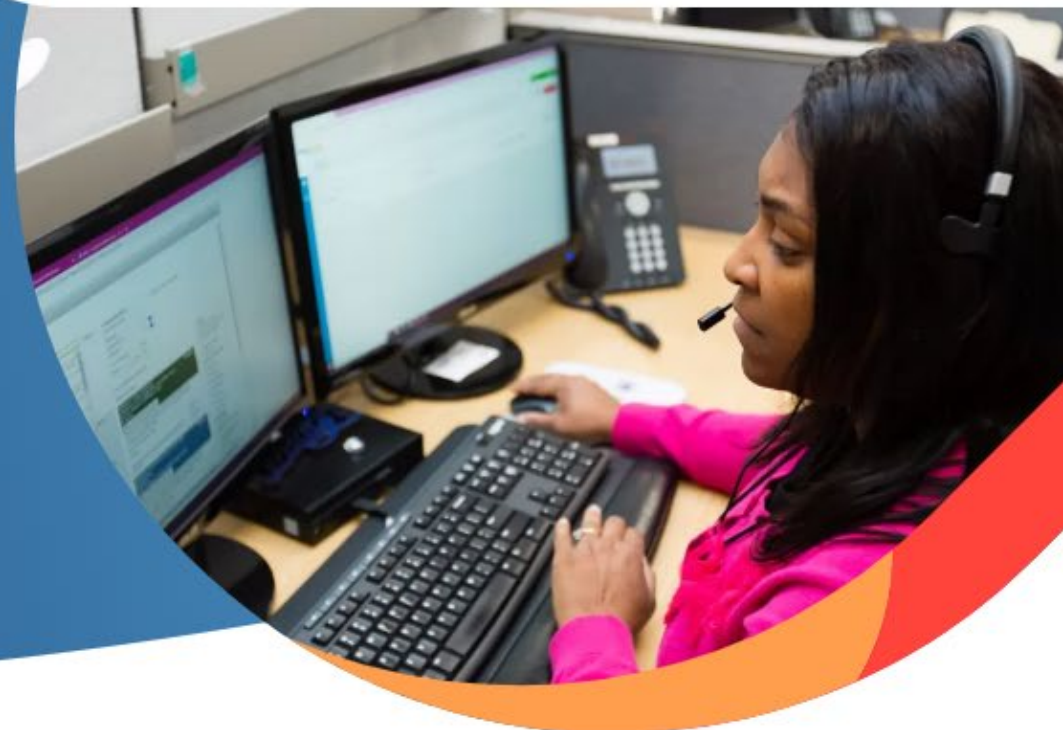
# Help starts here

211 connects you to expert, caring help.  
Every call is completely confidential.



**Call 211 for help**

Can't call us? [Find a local 211](#)



## What are you looking for today?



Caregiver Resources



Mental Health



New to the U.S.?



Your Local 211







NAVE WELLNESS CENTER  
Empowering your path onward.



## FREE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS

Supporting those who've lost a parent

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday @ 7PM

Virtual & In-person

[SIGN UP NOW RHRH.ORG](https://rhrh.org)



@rhrhorg



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

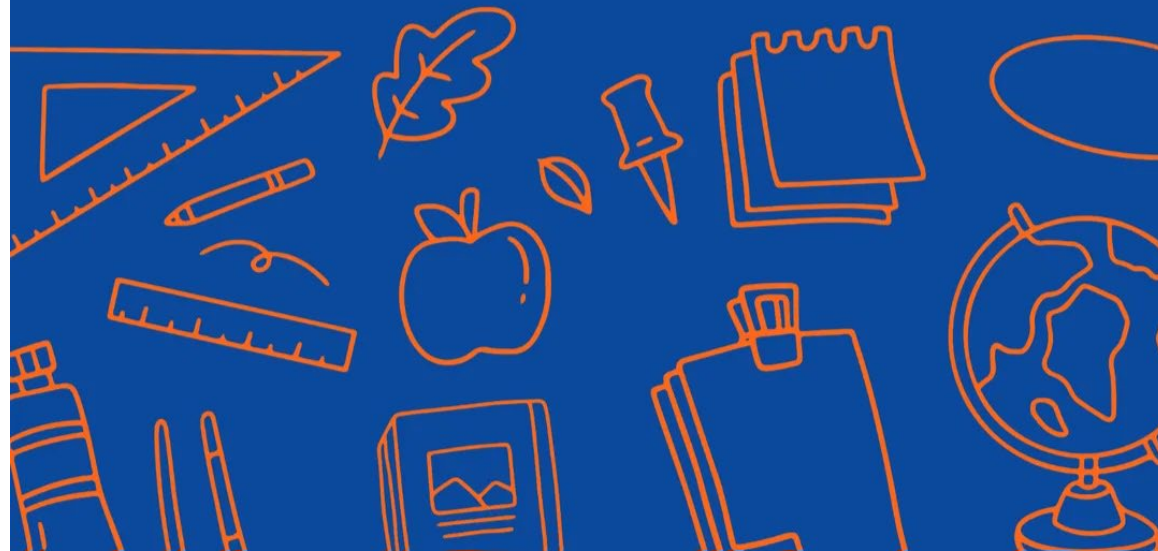
Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**

## Hey teachers!

Need mental health resources  
for your classroom?

Find free resources for building  
students' mental health literacy  
at [nami.org/BackToSchool](https://nami.org/BackToSchool)





Cook County  
North Suburban

FALL 2025 SESSION

# FAMILY TO FAMILY

FREE 9-WEEK EDUCATIONAL CLASS

FALL REGISTRATION

## FALL 2025 SESSION DETAILS

- ▶ September 25 - November 20
- ▶ Thursdays, 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
- ▶ **Unitarian Church of Evanston**  
1330 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**





## PROGRAM 590 MOBILE CRISIS RESPONSE

**Program 590 Mobile Crisis Response** provides:

- 24/7/365 rapid response to assess anyone within the community in need of mental health crisis treatment, regardless of payor status
- Offers community-based interventions and stabilization where the individual is located
- Determines at the time of crisis what level of care is most appropriate to keep the individual/community safe
- Access to ongoing case management, therapeutic interventions, psychiatric care and medication monitoring



### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Children, Adolescents and Adults experiencing a Mental Health Crisis
- No Insurance Required

### ACCESS SERVICES BY CALLING:

- 988
- CARES Line at 800-345-9049
- Metropolitan Family Services Crisis Line at 708-974-5850






### WALK-INS ARE WELCOME AT ANY OF THE CENTERS LISTED BELOW:

**Southwest Center**  
10537 South Roberts Road  
Palos Hills, Illinois 60465

**Merrionette Park**  
11560 S. Kedzie Ave., Suite 200  
Merrionette Park, IL 60803

*families **m**powered to learn. to earn. to heal. to thrive.*

Main Office | 101 N. Wacker Drive, 17th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606 | 312-986-4000 | [www.metrofamily.org](http://www.metrofamily.org)   

Updated August 2023



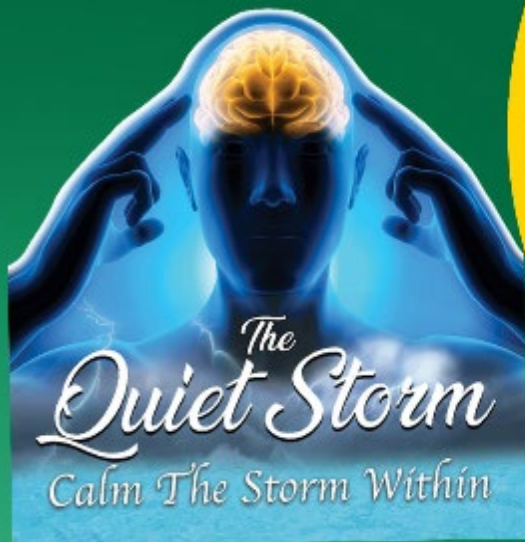
COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**

# THE LINK & OPTION CENTER, INC.

## THE QUIET STORM 24/7 CRISIS TRIAGE LIVING ROOM



**LET'S SIT AND TALK IT  
THROUGH TOGETHER.**

**IDHS** FUNDED BY THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



# THE LINK & OPTION CENTER, INC.

## THE QUIET STORM 24/7 CRISIS TRIAGE LIVING ROOM

...A Calming, Safe Space

The Living  
Room Services  
are Free of  
Charge

### What is The Living Room?

The Living Room is a safe place where You can relax and talk with a peer if you are experiencing life's emotional stresses.

### Who can visit The Living Room?

Anyone who is 18 and over who is feeling scared, anxious, angry, sad, or lonely and just needs someone to talk to.

### Where is The Living Room?

17577 S. Kedzie Ave , Suite 106  
Hazel Crest, IL 60429

### When can I visit The Living Room?

Open 7 days per week 24/7

**Questions? We're here to help!**



Crisis Hotline: 800-261-8905

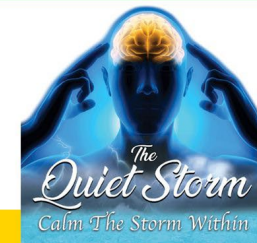


Link-option.com

Office Contact: 708-991-2513



: quietstormlivingroom



**COOK COUNTY  
HEALTH**

Cook County  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**



# Adult Mental Health First Aid Training



The flyer is a promotional graphic for Adult Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training. It features a central photograph of a young person with dark hair, wearing an orange sweater, sitting on a couch and looking down with a somber expression. The flyer is divided into several colored sections: a light green top left, a dark green top right, a yellow bottom left, and a white bottom right. The Rincon Family Services logo is at the top left. The title 'ADULT MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID (MHFA)' is in large green letters, with 'FREE Training & Certification' below it. A green banner in the top right corner states 'Adult MHFA can be provided in person or virtual'. The bottom left section lists who the training is for and what it covers. The bottom right section includes a QR code, contact information, and a website link.

**RINCON**  
FAMILY SERVICES

**ADULT MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID** (MHFA)  
**FREE Training & Certification**

Adult MHFA can be provided in person or virtual

Adult MHFA is for:  
-Employers -First Responders  
-Hospital Staff -Caregivers  
**ANYONE!**

Adult MHFA Covers:  
-Common signs and symptoms of Mental Health challenges  
-Common signs and symptoms of substance use challenges.  
-How to interact with a person in crisis.  
-How to connect a person with help.  
-Expanded content on trauma, substance use and self-care

Requirements:  
-Anyone 18+ is eligible to register for the sessions.

Ways to Participate:  
In-person or virtual  
Provided in English and Spanish  
(Spanish is in person only)

Interested?  
  
SCAN ME

Contact us!  
Kimberly Skoczelas  
(773) 564-9070  
Community.education@rinconfamilyservices.org  
[www.rinconfamilyservices.org](http://www.rinconfamilyservices.org)



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**

## MOBILE CRISIS RESPONSE



**MOBILE CRISIS TO YOU**  
De-escalate – Stabilize – Support  
24 hours, 7 days a week  
**1-800-261-8905**

**FREE**

### Rapid Response

- Trained mental health Mobile Crisis Specialists arrive within 60 minutes to provide crisis stabilization, intervention services, a safety plan, and clinical recommendations.
- Dispatch is available in the far south side and south suburbs.

### Who can use Mobile Crisis Response?

- Children age 5 and older, adolescents, and adults at home, school, work, or hospital, we come to you.
- Police, firefighters, medical professionals, educators, clergy, and community members can make emergency calls or routine referrals.

### Range of Services

We connect you to immediate access to mental health therapy, addiction treatment, urgent care, case management (supportive housing and employment services, transportation, food assistance) and after crisis contact for up to 8 weeks.



### What's a Crisis?

Anyone experiencing a non-life-threatening mental health crisis.

- Loss of Self Control
- Cyberbullying
- Domestic Violence
- Extreme Anxiety or Depression
- Aggression towards self/others
- Suicidal Ideations or Attempts



**WALK-INS ARE WELCOME**  
17577 South Kedzie Avenue, Suite 106  
HAZEL CREST, IL 60429  
Reach us at 708-991-2513

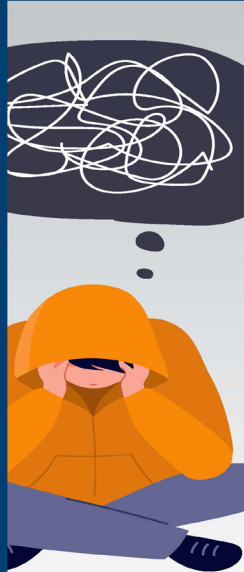


**COOK COUNTY  
HEALTH**

Cook County  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**

# Mental Health Services for Youth



**Sertoma Centre Community Mental Health and Counseling**

## Mental Health Services for Youth

Individual Counseling | Family Counseling | Group Therapy | Psychosocial Education

Sertoma Centre is an experienced provider of mental health services in the South Suburbs that can help youth in your community get the support they need.

Sertoma's programs offer support, resources, and individualized care tailored to each individual and their family. We blend therapy, education, and research to address specific needs and inspire leadership in their own journey.

We offer counseling and support services to youth experiencing:

- ADHD
- Anxiety
- Bullying
- Conduct disorders/ODD
- Depression
- Eating Disorders
- Emotional or Behavioral concerns
- Mood Disorders
- Self Esteem/Identity Difficulties
- Substance use
- Suicide prevention
- Transition Difficulties
- Other Mental Health Diagnoses

**\*Child must be 5 years or older to qualify**


If someone you know is affected by mental illness, find help by calling:

**708-748-1951 ext. 455**

We are a proud Medicaid provider and accept traditional Medicaid as well as Managed Care Plans such as:

- Aetna
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield
- Illini Care
- Meridian
- County Care
- Molina
- Beacon

**Call to ask about other insurance!**  
**Appointments offered from 8:00am-6:00pm**

 **Sertoma Centre, Inc.** | Community Mental Health and Counseling  
4331 W. Lincoln Highway, Matteson, IL 60443

For more information  
**708-748-1951**  
[sertomacentre.org/cmhc](http://sertomacentre.org/cmhc)







#### WHO NEEDS TO KNOW MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

- Employers.
- Police officers.
- Hospital staff.
- First responders.
- Caring individuals.

#### WHY MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID?

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adults.

On average,  
**130**  
people die by  
suicide every day.

*Source: American Foundation  
for Suicide Prevention*

From 1999 to 2019,  
**841,000**  
people died from  
drug overdoses.

*Source: Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention*

Nearly  
**1 IN 5**  
in the U.S. lives  
with a mental illness.

*Source: National Institute  
of Mental Health*

#### Sources

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. (n.d.). Suicide statistics. <https://afsp.org/suicide-statistics/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.). Drug overdose deaths. <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/deaths/index.html>

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). (n.d.). Mental illness. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/mental-illness>

#### REGISTER TODAY!

##### Delivery Format:

NAMI SSC and Sertoma Star Services are cosponsoring an in-person Adult MHFA Training

##### Date and Time:

Wednesday February 26th from 8:30am - 4:30pm

##### Location:

15350 Oak Park Avenue, Oak Forest, IL 60452

##### Where to Register:

Email: Lisa Guardiola at [lguardiola@sertomastar.org](mailto:lguardiola@sertomastar.org)

or call 1-708-748-1951 ext. 405

##### The course will teach you how to apply the MHFA Action Plan (ALGEE):

- **A**ssess for risk of suicide or harm.
- **L**isten nonjudgmentally.
- **G**ive reassurance and information.
- **E**ncourage appropriate professional help.
- **E**ncourage self-help and other support strategies.



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT  
of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**

# Community Resources



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT  
of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**



# YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

*Attention:*

**SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS, AND SENIORS!**

**IF YOU ARE A MOTIVATED AND  
DEDICATED STUDENT RESIDING IN PARK FOREST OR RICHTON PARK,  
THIS OPPORTUNITY IS FOR YOU!**

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:**

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2025**

### REQUIREMENTS:

- ② Applicants must reside in Park Forest or Richton Park.
- ② Submit (1) letter of recommendation: Academic or Community.
- ② Submit a personal statement of a minimum of 250 words.
- ② Attend (1) meeting per month between the months of October- April (10-12 noon on every 3rd Saturday of the month)
- ② Participate in at least (1) Service Projects.
- ② All documents must be submitted on or before the deadline for program consideration



**COOK COUNTY  
HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**



📞 **FOR QUESTIONS, CALL 708-283-5020 EXT 106**

📍 Paper applications can be picked up in person at 208 Forest Blvd. Park Forest, Illinois



Youth4ward Presents:

## Youth Action Board

**A chance for YOUR voice to be heard.**

Our Youth Action Board is a program seeking passionate **teens age 13-18** wanting to **make a difference** in our community.

Through this program you will **learn leadership** skills, **connect** with peers, and have the opportunity to **receive a gift card** and participate in fun and engaging activities.

*For more information or questions, please contact Bob Clasby at [rclasby@auntmarthas.org](mailto:rclasby@auntmarthas.org) or text 708-466-2926*

**APPLY NOW, to save your spot for upcoming events!!!**

*Scan the QR code to complete the application.*



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**

Enroll your child for  
free monthly books!  
¡Inscriba a su hijo(a)  
para libros gratuitos!



## FREE BOOKS! ¡LIBROS GRATIS!

### How It Works / ¿Cómo funciona?

- Enroll your child online  
Inscriba a su hijo(a) en línea
- In 6-8 weeks, your child will receive their first book in the mail, 'The Little Engine That Could'.  
Después de 8 a 12 semanas, su hijo(a) recibirá su primer libro por correo: La Pequeña Locomotora Que Sí Pudo
- Books arrive in the mail monthly until your child's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Los libros llegarán por correo cada mes hasta que el niño(a) cumpla 5 años.



← Scan code to enroll  
Escanee este código  
para inscribir



COOK COUNTY  
HEALTH

Cook County  
Public Health

BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES

Eligible Chicago Zip Codes / Códigos postales elegibles de Chicago

60608, 60619, 60620, 60621, 60623, 60624, 60632, 60636, 60644, 60651



# YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION COUNCIL



**JOIN US!**

The YVPC's vision is to create opportunities for Youth ages 8 - 18 and 19 - 28 (2nd Tier) to engage in civic duties and positive activities centered around violence prevention with an emphasis on firearm violence prevention through various means with creative arts being a key component for messaging.

## Includes Youth Violence Prevention Initiatives, Civic Engagement, and Public Speaking:

1. Prevention Programs - SAYF groups for the entire family.
2. Response Activities - Civic Involvement and Community Engagement
3. Intervention Services - Referrals & Resources with Partners (Youth making the connections on behalf of other Youth)
4. Messaging through Creative Arts
5. Social Skills Training & Mentoring (Collaboration with Partners)

## CREATIVE ARTS PROGRAM:

Communicating the Message of Mitigating Gun Violence with the Arts: Acting, Public Speaking, Dance, Poetry, Musical Instruments & More!



**SIGN UP:**

☎ 708-252-DOIT

✉ [info@trykci.org](mailto:info@trykci.org)

📍 The Empowerment Center  
202 Forest Blvd.  
Park Forest, IL 60466



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**

## YOUTH4WARD

A Positive Youth Development Program

### About Our Program

#### WHO WE ARE

-A program that supports the health and well-being of adolescents 12-17.

#### WHAT WE DO

-Help youth build resilience and foster coping skills that are positive and sustainable.

-Engage and empower vulnerable youth to ultimately reduce mental health inequities.

#### WHAT YOUTH WILL RECEIVE

-Self management tools to deal with trauma, anxiety, and depression.

-Health maintenance support.

-Educational workshops

-Case management and linkages to additional resources and support



**A holistic, integrated approach is the foundation to address youth development and health care.**

### Serving South Suburban Cook County

Reach out today to see how the youth in your life can participate in our program

Contact: Kelly Werner  
kwerner@auntmarthas.org or  
Bob Clasby  
rclasby@auntmarthas.org



## Empowering students through education

In recognition of the vital role tutoring plays in student success, Varsity Tutors is committed to providing accessible and high-quality educational support to students across Illinois. Through its online **NO-COST Platform Access**, Varsity Tutors offers a wealth of resources, expert tutors, and personalized instruction designed to meet each student's unique needs.

### How Schools Can Benefit

Illinois schools can leverage Varsity Tutors' **NO-COST Platform Access until 6/30/2030** to enrich their educational offerings and support their student's academic journey. By registering for these services through Keven Brown, **Director of Educational Partnerships**, schools can unlock a wealth of resources that will not only enhance academic performance but also promote positive mental health among students.

Contact [keven.brown@varsitytutors.com](mailto:keven.brown@varsitytutors.com) for a list of eligible School Districts



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health





# Community Events



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT  
of  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**

# FACT OR FICTION?



THC IS HARMLESS AND HAS NO  
IMPACT ON OUR COMMUNITY?



## THE IMPACT OF THC ON YOUNG BRAINS

A community talk on how THC can effect learning,  
memory, coordination, and decision-making in youth.

Presented by Governors State University Community  
Health Program in collaboration with YEDA.



**Saturday, Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 12–2pm**

Governors State University – Social Justice Center  
1 University Parkway, University Park, IL

**Come out, bring your children, and join  
us for this important conversation.**



**COOK COUNTY  
HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT  
of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**



1ST ANNUAL  
*Chicago Ridge Community*  
**RESOURCE FAIR**

**Saturday,  
September 20, 2025  
9am -12pm**

Hosted By:



Chicago Ridge Village Hall  
10455 S Ridgeland Ave,

**Available Services Include:**

- Free vision & hearing screenings
- Vaccinations: flu, shingles, COVID, RSV & more
- Cook County Treasurer's Office - Find unclaimed money
- Healthcare info & legal support
- Many local resources serving the Chicago Ridge community



Help us give back!  
We're collecting non-  
perishable food items  
for Our Lady of the  
Ridge Food Pantry

**RAFFLE PRIZES!!!**



Vendor inquiries,  
please email  
Alison Parker,  
[aparker@pathlights.org](mailto:aparker@pathlights.org)

Presented by:



**Pathlights**

Enriched by experience.  
Empowered in life.



**COOK COUNTY  
HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**



Judge John A. Fairman  
State of Illinois, Cook County



Honorable Mariyana T. Spyropoulos  
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County

# MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT

## WHAT SHOULD I DO IN A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS?

**Tuesday September 30, 2025 4:30-8:00PM**  
Bridgeview Courthouse, Jury Room: 10220 S 76th Ave, Bridgeview, IL

### Topics of Discussion:

- ▶ Mental Health Services
- ▶ Emergency Hospital Orders
- ▶ Power of Attorney
- ▶ Guardianship
- ▶ Special Needs Trust
- ▶ Crisis Intervention
- ▶ Firearm Restraining Orders

**GET YOUR QUESTIONS  
ANSWERED & GATHER MENTAL  
HEALTH RESOURCES FROM  
SERVICE PROVIDERS**

### PANELISTS



*Dr. Carlos Quezada-Gomez*  
Cook County Health



*Cordelia Coppleson*  
Director of Training  
Cook County State  
Attorney's Office



*Dr. Dana Weiner*  
Chief Officer  
Children's Behavioral  
Health Transformation - IDHS



*Judge Jesse J. Outlaw*  
Honorable Circuit Court  
Judge, Probate Division



*Elizabeth Capua LCPC*  
Clinical Manager  
TRT/CVAP



*ASA Denise Tomasek Bartolini*  
Cook County State  
Attorney's Office



*Daniel Jordan Ferrell Esq.*  
Farrell & Associates LTD.



*Lt. Troy Siewert (ret.)*  
Certified Crisis  
Intervention Coordinator

**HEATHER A. BEGLEY**  
Attorney



**TOMASIK KOTIN KASSERMAN**  
TRIAL LAWYERS

**REGISTER:**



**Thank You to Our Sponsor!**



**COOK COUNTY  
HEALTH**

Cook County  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**





# Computer Giveaway



**Don't have a working computer at home?  
We're here to help!**

**Register for your chance to  
receive a FREE COMPUTER!**

**Compudopt** is a non-profit dedicated to providing computers and free or low-cost internet solutions to families who need them to thrive in today's digital world.

**To qualify** for the computer giveaway, you must **not own** a working computer at home and have a child in grades K-12. **Computers include a 2-year warranty and free tech support!**

Visit <https://www.compudopt.org/chicago> to register or scan the QR code to register now.

*Selected families will be notified via text and email.*

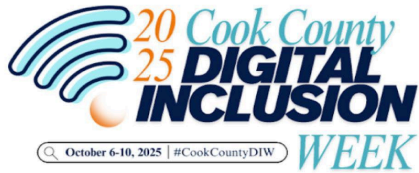


**Register Today!**



**Questions?**

Call: **855-532-5060**



Empowering youth through technology.

Power. Learn. Thrive.



[compudopt.org](https://www.compudopt.org)



# Sorteo de Computadoras



**¿No tienes computadora en casa?  
¡Estamos aquí para ayudarte!**

**¡Regístrate para tener la oportunidad  
de recibir una COMPUTADORA GRATIS!**

**Compudopt** es una organización sin fines de lucro dedicada a proporcionar computadoras y soluciones de internet gratuitas o de bajo costo a las familias que las necesitan para prosperar en el mundo digital actual.

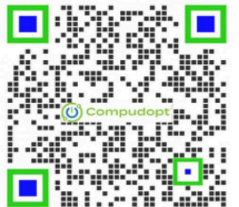
**Para calificar** para el sorteo de computadoras y asistir a la feria, **no debe tener actualmente** una computadora funcional en su hogar. **¡Las computadoras incluyen 2 años de soporte técnico gratuito!**

Visite <https://www.compudopt.org/chicago> para registrarse o escanee el código QR para registrarse ahora.

*Las familias seleccionadas serán notificadas por mensaje de texto y correo electrónico.*

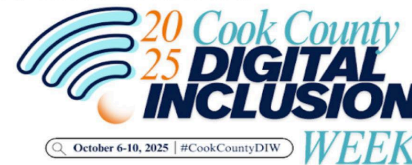


**¡Regístrate hoy!**



**¿Preguntas?**

Llama: **855-532-5060**



Empoderar a los jóvenes a través de la tecnología.

Poder. Aprender. Prosperar.




[compudopt.org](https://www.compudopt.org)



**GREATER  
CHICAGO  
- FOOD -  
DEPOSITORY.**

***The Hills Market Food Pantry is Open!***

 **Location:**

3015 W. 163rd Street, Markham, IL 60428

(Annex building in the rear, DOOR #12)

**Regular Hours of Operation:**

- Wednesdays: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- Thursdays: 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Service Boundaries:**

- North: 154th Street
- South: 182nd Street
- West: Cicero Avenue
- East: Western Avenue

**Town Zip Codes Served:**

60428, 60429, 60452, 60478

**Must be 18 years or older.**

We look forward to serving our community with nutritious food and support!



**COOK COUNTY  
HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**



# Community Immunization Program Updates

- **Measles Case in Cook County**

- **Please see joint press release from CCDPH and CDPH regarding the case:**

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/ILCOOKCODPH/bulletins/3f2ec56>

- **Measles Toolkit for support in education school/community wide:**

<https://cookcountypublichealth.org/communicable-diseases/measles-toolkit/>

- **School Based Clinics**

- CCDPH is currently working with Prism Health to provide school- based vaccine clinics for students at schools throughout Suburban Cook County. All required/recommended vaccines are available for children out of compliance. Please reach out to Candace Nicks, Manager, Community Immunization Program for more information.
- Dates/spaces are limited so please reach soon, if interested.



# Community Immunization Manager

Candace Nicks

Manager, Community Immunization Program

[candace.nicks@cookcountyhealth.org](mailto:candace.nicks@cookcountyhealth.org)

(708) 446-7305 mobile



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**

# Communicable Disease Update



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT  
of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**



# Cook County Department of Public Health

Communicable Disease Update  
September 2025



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT. of  
Public Health



# Communicable Disease Unit

## Vaccine Preventable Diseases + School Setting

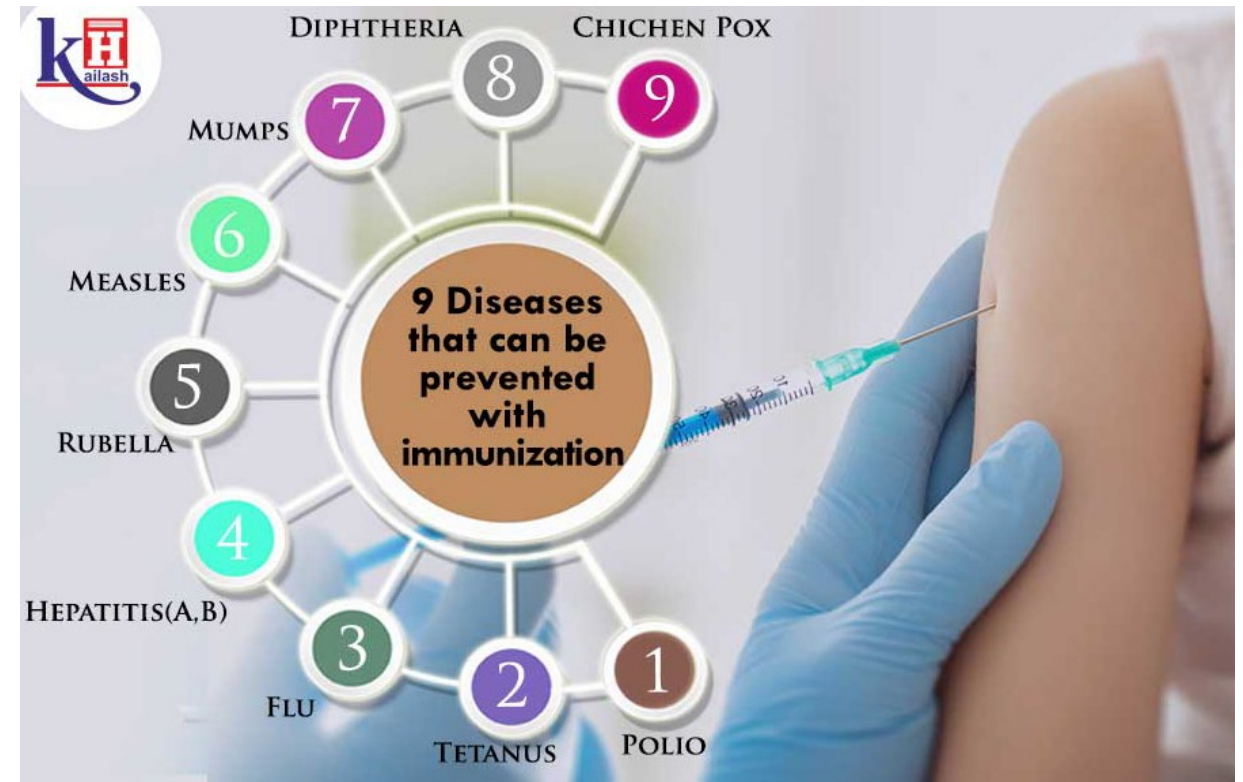
- The CCDPH Communicable Disease (CD) Unit provides individualized consultation in school settings to control, prevent, and manage outbreaks
- CD staff investigates reports of infectious diseases, gathers information, conducts key interviews, and arranges testing when necessary
- Prevention and control guidance on exclusion (quarantine/isolation), environmental cleaning and disinfection is tailored for each site and each outbreak
- CD staff ensures accurate, fact-based communication between parties—for example providing a template letter for schools to send to parents
- Monitoring of cases or clusters continues, and guidance is provided, until it is safe to resume normal operations



# Childhood Diseases in School Settings

## Reportable: Vaccine Preventable Diseases

- Measles: Suspect, Probable, Confirmed
- Varicella
- Pertussis
- Mumps
- Diphtheria
- Rubella
- ICU Hospitalization Cases
  - Influenza
  - COVID-19
  - RSV
  - Deaths







# Vaccination Requirement Deadline



COOK COUNTY  
HEALTH

Under Illinois law, all students must be up to date on required vaccinations by **October 15**—or an earlier deadline if set by your district.



# Communication Channel + VPD Team

Vaccine Preventable Diseases



## CCDPH Mailbox:

[ccdph\\_schools@cookcountyhhs.org](mailto:ccdph_schools@cookcountyhhs.org)

## CCDPH Phone number:

(708) 836-8699



# Preventing Spread of Infections in K-12 Schools

## Resources

**CDC Guidance for Infection Prevention and Control in K-12 Schools Document**

**[Preventing Spread of Infections in K-12 Schools | CDC](#)**

**Emergency Operations Plans and Sustaining Partnerships Videos**

**<https://rem.s.ed.gov/trainings/CourseInfectious.aspx>**

**Considerations for Prioritizing Additional Strategies**

**<https://www.cdc.gov/orr/school-preparedness/infection-prevention/prioritizing-strategies.html>**

**Everyday Actions for Schools to Prevent and Control the Spread of Infections**

**<https://www.cdc.gov/orr/school-preparedness/infection-prevention/actions.html>**

School Nurse



Thank You For All You Do!



# Chicago Food Policy Action Council (CFPAC)



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**



# Farm to School Efforts at Proviso Township High Schools

---

Building Stronger Menus, Communities, and Connections

Roberto Gonzalez | Nutrition Coordinator | Food and Nutrition Services  
Department





# Why Farm to School?

---

**Supports and strengthens local farmers & regional food systems**

- Builds long-term farmer–school partnerships that supports food supply chains

**Provides fresher, higher-quality ingredients for students**

- Shorter supply chain means better taste and nutrition
- Seasonal produce brings variety to menus

**Boosts student interest and participation in school meals**

- Students are more likely to try familiar, fresh foods
- New, innovative recipes increase excitement in the cafeteria

**Creates hands-on learning opportunities in food, nutrition, and agriculture**

- Connects classroom lessons to real-life food systems
- Sparks curiosity about where food comes from and how it's grown



# Proviso Township HS Farm to School Journey....so far

---



- Gradual rollout of pilots
  - Start small, test new recipes for student input
  - Build confidence before district-wide adoption
- Collaboration with regional food partners
  - The Common Market has been great with the initial roll out of farm to school products
- Balanced taste, nutrition & culture
  - Incorporate student-preferred flavors while meeting USDA nutrition standards
- Goal → increase menu consumption
  - Reduce food waste and improve participation rates



# Beef & Black Bean Patty Pilot

- Partners: The Common Market + McCann Meats
  - Collaborating with partners helps understand the ins and outs of local supply chains
- Locally sourced beef & black beans product
  - Supports local producers and strengthens regional food systems
  - Reduces environmental impact from long-distance transportation
- Piloted in 2024 → positive student response
  - Students enjoyed the taste, which led to increased meal participation
- Healthier, cost-effective option
  - Aligns with wellness goals and encourages healthy eating habits







# Expanding with Local Grains

---

- Support from Artisan Grain Collaborative
  - Collaboration with a regional organization dedicated to high-quality, sustainable grains
  - Strengthens relationships with local producers and food artisans
- Adds menu variety & cultural relevance
  - Introduces new textures, flavors, and grain types to the menu
  - Allows meals to reflect regional and cultural food traditions
  - Engages students with diverse, appealing, and nutrient-rich options



# Food Advocacy & Community Impact

---

- Advocacy beyond food
  - Farm to School programs go beyond meals to teach students about where food comes from
  - Encourages engagement in local food policy and community initiatives
- Builds school–farmer–family connections
  - Creates opportunities for students and families to meet and learn from local farmers
  - Strengthens relationships between schools, local agriculture, and communities
- Promotes equity in food access
  - Ensures all students, regardless of background, can access fresh, nutritious, locally sourced meals
  - Helps address disparities in healthy food availability
- Inspires food system awareness
  - Empowers students to make informed food choices and become future advocates





# Looking Ahead

---



- Pilot new local items
  - Introduce additional locally sourced ingredients and recipes
  - Test new menu options with students to gauge taste, acceptance, and participation
  - Refine recipes based on feedback for long-term adoption
- Share success stories
  - Highlight student engagement, positive feedback, and increased participation
  - Use storytelling to inspire other schools and community members
  - Demonstrate measurable impact on nutrition, sustainability, and local sourcing
- Vision → cornerstone of wellness & innovation
  - Integrate hands-on food education and sustainability into school culture
  - Foster a long-term vision where local foods and wellness are central to every meal



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT. of  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**

# School Grants & Funding Opportunities

# USDA | Patrick Leahy Farm to School Grant Program (2026)

## Program Details:

- Support incorporation of local foods across the different School Nutrition programming (i.e. NSLP, SBP, SFSP, and CACFP): education, taste tests, school gardens, field trips (New or Expanding existing efforts)
- Total Award for distribution: 18 million
- Projects range: 100k-500k
  - Cost sharing requirement
- Eligibility:
  - State agencies
  - Indian Tribal organizations
  - Child Nutrition Program operators\*
  - Local agencies\*
  - Agricultural producers\*
  - Groups of agricultural producers\*
  - Non-profit organizations\* (501c3)

## 2024 Illinois Awardees – Projects:

- Types of Projects:
  - Planning for Farm 2 School programming
  - Implementation
  - Ag Education
- Who applied:
  - School District
  - Farm
  - Community organizations doing F2S education applications

**Closing Date: December 5th, 2025**



**COOK COUNTY**  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT. of  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**



**CHICAGO**  
**FOOD POLICY**  
**ACTION COUNCIL**

# USDA | Lake Michigan School Food Innovation Hub

## Program Details:

- Sub-Grant from the USDA School Food System Transformation Challenge –Great Lake cohort was one of 4 awardees
- These funds support innovation in the school meals marketplace by incentivizing collaboration between schools, the food industry, and other stakeholders.
- Convened by Illinois Public Health Institute
- State leads: SGA, MSU, Indiana Food Council, Kids Forward and Health Tide
- Illinois Applicants connect with State lead: Illinois F2S Network (SGA) –

[farmtoschool@sevengenerationsahead.org](mailto:farmtoschool@sevengenerationsahead.org)

## Types of Grants + IL Awardees:

- **Innovation Collaboration (2 years): 250K – 500K**
  - Beyond Green Partners
  - Artisan Grain Collaborative
- **Spark Awards (1 year): 30k –100K**
  - Common Market + PTSD 209
  - Greater Wabash Food Council +Local school districts

[Applications Open October 15th, 2025](#)  
[Close date: January 23, 2026](#)



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT. of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**



**CHICAGO  
FOOD POLICY  
ACTION COUNCIL**

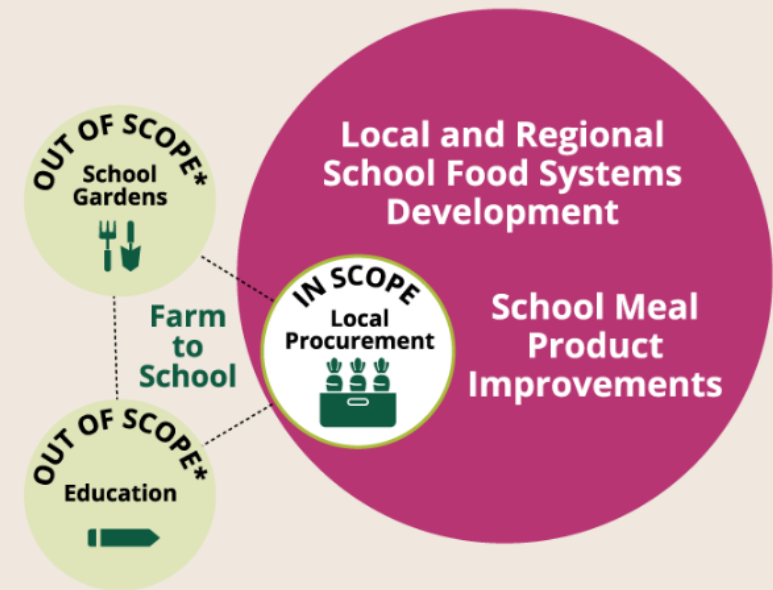


# USDA | Lake Michigan School Food Innovation Hub

## Eligibility:

- Farmers
- Food producers
- Food suppliers, Food distributors, Food industry partners
- Schools and school districts, including nonprofit private and charter schools that operate the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Programs
- Other organizations, including but not limited to community non-profit organizations, state and local governmental agencies, Tribes, Native American Tribal Organizations, institutions of higher education, and small businesses.

## INNOVATION HUB FUNDING ELIGIBILITY: HOW DOES FARM-TO-SCHOOL FIT?



\*School gardens and education can be included as **components** of a grant proposal but cannot be funded as the main project.



COOK COUNTY  
HEALTH

Cook County  
Public Health

BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES



# ISBE | Local Food for Schools (Ends January 2026)

## Program Details:

- USDA Cooperative Agreement
- 7.3 million dollars allocated to Illinois in 2022
- Non-competitive sub-awards
- Distributed to IL SFAs to purchase local fresh/minimally processed food from IL or 400 miles from delivery site
  - Fruits, vegetables (fresh or pre-cut), grain products, dairy foods, meat/poultry
- Prioritize purchasing from underserved producers/growers
- School Food Programs reimbursed : lunch (NSLP), breakfast (SBP), After School Snack Program and/or the Seamless Summer Option (SSO)
- Only for food purchasing, no admin dollars

## Types of Grants + IL Awardees:

- **Innovation Collaboration (2 years): 250K – 500K**
  - Beyond Green Partners
  - Artisan Grain Collaborative
- **Spark Awards (1 year): 30k – 100K**
  - Common Market + PTSD 209
  - Greater Wabash Food Council + Local school districts

[Available through January 31st, 2026](#)



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT. of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**



# ISBE | School Breakfast Program (SBP) Expansion Grant

## Program Details:

- Voluntary program: SBP is part of National School Lunch Program (NLSP)
- Focus is establish, maintain or expand SBP in the SFA's qualifying schools.
- Sub-granting up to 10K per qualifying school/ group of schools
- Award range between \$500 – \$10k per recipient
  - Total for FY26 – \$993K
  - Annual disbursement, usually close by May
  - Cost sharing not required

Grant reopening in Spring 2027



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT. of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**



**CHICAGO  
FOOD POLICY  
ACTION COUNCIL**

# Other Resources



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County  
Public Health



**CHICAGO**  
FOOD POLICY  
ACTION COUNCIL

# Questions ???



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT of  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**



# Adjournment



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

Cook County DEPT  
of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**