

The Cook County Health & Hospitals System



COOK COUNTY HEALTH  
& HOSPITALS SYSTEM  
**CCHHS**

# SYSTEM NEWS

## Community Edition

### Letter from the CEO



#### CCHHS' Vision for the Future

Federal health care reform has had a tremendous impact on the Cook County Health & Hospitals System. Today, more than 70 percent of our patients are now insured, up from less than half just a few years ago. And with health coverage comes choice. Our patients, many of whom came to us for care when uninsured, can now get care at nearly any hospital in

the county. We are pleased that thousands of patients have chosen to continue to receive care at CCHHS. Our health system has to transition to operate like other modern health systems in our region that we are now competing with.

CCHHS is embarking on a transformative journey to become a more modern, reliable and patient-centered health system. This is not something that can be achieved overnight; it will require ongoing effort and commitment. To that end, we have launched a strategic planning process that will result in a plan to guide the system's activities and goals from 2017-2019. As we develop this plan in conjunction with the CCHHS Board of Directors and staff, we would also like community input on where we should continue to focus and areas for improvement so we can best serve the residents of Cook County.

I am pleased to invite you to join us at the following town hall meetings to learn about CCHHS' strategic plans and provide input.

**Monday, May 2**  
**6:00pm-7:30pm**

**Provident Hospital**  
500 East 51st Street  
Cafeteria, 2nd Floor  
Chicago, IL 60615

**Monday, May 16**  
**6:00pm-7:30pm**

**Cicero Community Center**  
2250 South 49th Avenue  
Room CC107  
Cicero, IL 60804

**Wednesday, May 4**  
**6:00pm-7:30pm**

**Oak Forest Health Center**  
15900 South Cicero Road  
Auditorium, Main Building  
Oak Forest, IL 60452

**Tuesday, May 17**  
**6:00pm-7:30pm**

**CCHHS Administration Building**  
1900 West Polk Street  
Board Room, 2nd Floor  
Chicago, IL 60612

To RSVP, please email [townhall@cookcountyhhs.org](mailto:townhall@cookcountyhhs.org). We are looking forward to your contributions to our plan and thank you for your continued support.



**Dr. Jay Shannon, CEO, CCHHS**

# New Outpatient Building Planned for West-side Campus

This month Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and the Cook County Health & Hospitals System announced plans for the new Central Campus Health Center, a new state-of-the-art outpatient facility that will be located on Chicago's west side.

The new nine-story 282,000-square-foot building will consolidate many of the services in the Fantus Health Center (built in 1959) and administrative space currently housed in two other dilapidated buildings on campus.

"Building this new ambulatory care facility is more than replacing old buildings," said Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle.

"It is a transformative centerpiece for system-wide operational and programmatic reform. It will enable the health system to offer a modern patient experience that is competitive in contemporary healthcare markets for years to come by providing facilities that match the first-rate care already available through the health system."



The Central Campus Health Center will allow CCHHS to enhance and expand outpatient services, reduce operating costs, improve the patient experience, and increase clinical and administrative efficiency. CCHHS sees more than 100,000 unique patients through over 550,000 clinic visits

annually on the central campus, demonstrating the need for a more clinically efficient and upgraded Central Campus Health Center.

"Health systems across the country, including ours, are increasingly focused on providing more outpatient 'health' care and reducing the need for costly inpatient 'sick' care," said Dr. Jay Shannon, CEO, CCHHS. "The new Central Campus Health Center will allow us to provide patients the care they need to get and stay well in a more efficient and patient-centered manner."

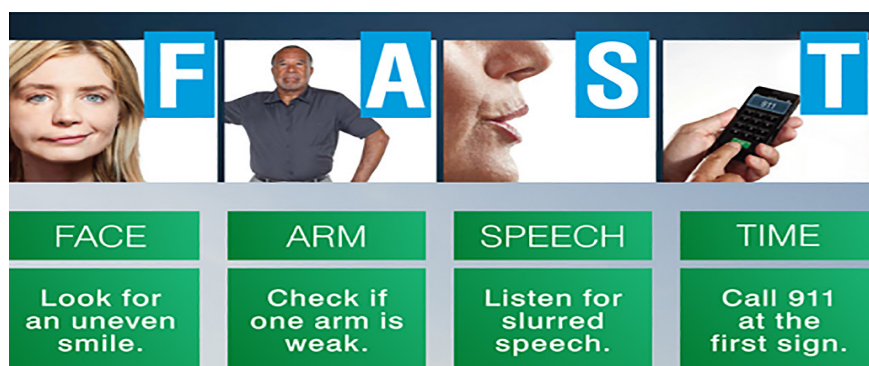
Visit CCHHS' website, [cookcountyhhs.org](http://cookcountyhhs.org), for more information about the Central Campus Health Center plans.

## May is American Stroke Month

Strokes affect nearly 800,000 people each year, and are one of the leading causes of death in the U.S. A stroke occurs when blood cannot get to an area of the brain, often because of a clot or tear in a blood vessel in the brain. Stroke can cause long-term brain damage or even death.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the symptoms of a stroke can include:

- **Sudden numbness or weakness** in the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body.
- **Sudden confusion**, trouble speaking, or difficulty understanding speech.
- **Sudden trouble seeing** in one or both eyes.
- **Sudden trouble walking**, dizziness, loss of balance, or lack of coordination.
- **Sudden severe headache** with no known cause.



"Recognizing the symptoms of a stroke is very important, as time is of the essence in stroke treatment," said Dr. Michael Kelly, Chair of CCHHS' Division of Neurology. "The faster someone can get to a hospital after a stroke the better our ability is to reduce potential brain damage."

CCHHS' John H. Stroger Jr., Hospital has been recognized as a Primary Stroke Center by The Joint Commission and The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association for the hospital's long-term success in improving outcomes for stroke patients.



High blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes and smoking can all increase a person's risk for a stroke. Nearly 80% of strokes could be avoided with healthy lifestyle decisions. To learn more about preventing a stroke, visit [www.cdc.gov/stroke/](http://www.cdc.gov/stroke/).

## CCHHS in the News

- [New plan for old Cook County hospital: hotel, apartments, shops](#)
- [Navy Corpsmen train at Stroger Hospital](#)
- [Fentanyl-related deaths spike in Cook County](#)
- [CCHHS CORE Center awarded grant for HIV-patient assistance](#)
- [Taking a closer look at Chicago's lead pipes](#)
- [Cook County officials encourage residents to poison-proof homes](#)

## Upcoming Events

- [April 29: CCHHS Board of Directors Meeting](#)
- **May 2: Strategic Planning Community Meeting - Provident**
- **May 4: Strategic Planning Community Meeting - Oak Forest**
- **May 16: Strategic Planning Community Meeting - Cicero**
- **May 17: Strategic Planning Community Meeting - Chicago**

If you would like to invite a representative from CCHHS to attend a community event, please send an email to [events@cookcountyhhs.org](mailto:events@cookcountyhhs.org).

To provide feedback on CCHHS Community News, update your contact information, or unsubscribe, please email Marcelino Garcia, Director of Community Affairs, at [mgarcia6@cookcountyhhs.org](mailto:mgarcia6@cookcountyhhs.org).

## Employment

CCHHS is hiring! Check out our website, [cookcountyhhs.org/careers](http://cookcountyhhs.org/careers) to find open positions.

