



COOK COUNTY  
HEALTH

# SYSTEM NEWS

December 2018

## Letter From the CEO

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Dear Cook County Health Friends,

The Cook County Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted the County's FY2019 budget, which includes an approval of the Cook County Health budget. I am pleased to share that we will continue to fulfill the goals set out in our [three-year strategic plan](#), which includes adapting to changes in the larger healthcare environment while lowering our reliance on local tax dollars. We are proud that we generate 97% of our operating revenue through patient fees, grants and other sources. In fact, our 2019 budget does not include any additional operating support from Cook County taxpayers. And the local tax allocation of \$102M, used to fund mandated public health and correctional health services as well as uncompensated care, has decreased by more than 75% since 2009, and represents just 3% of our operating revenue.



The CCH \$2.9B budget includes several new services such as mental health care at the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center, dialysis services at Provident Hospital, additional substance abuse treatment programs, and expanded dental, primary care, ophthalmology and comprehensive cancer services—now provided in the new Professional Building on the central campus.

The budget also reflects continued growth of CountyCare, CCH's Medicaid managed care health plan, expected to reach 345,000 members in 2019. While the Affordable Care Act, which inspired the creation of CountyCare, has significantly reduced the number of uninsured individuals in Cook County, 42% of CCH's patients remain without coverage. As a result, we expect to continue to provide the largest portion of charity care of any health system in Cook County next year.

On behalf of all those served by Cook County Health each year, I offer you, our community, my heartfelt thanks for your continued support that enables us to remain true to our historic mission of caring for all regardless of their ability to pay.

*Dr. Jay Shannon, CEO, CCH*

## Robbins Health Center Participates in “Ask the Doctor” Series

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Dr. Daniel Berg, family medicine physician from the CCH Robbins Health Center, visits with a Turner School student and her grandmother during the “Ask the Doctor” series.

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The Robbins Health Center physicians and staff are committed to their community, and are actively engaged with local families through partnerships with local schools including Delia M. Turner Elementary, located just a few blocks away from the CCH clinic. They collaborate to meet the health needs of students and their families, and earlier this month, Dr. Daniel Berg, Dr. Jacqueline Marshall, and Dr. Simon Piller each participated in an “Ask the Doctor” program sponsored by Posen-Robbins School District at Turner School’s Birth to Three program.

At the “Ask the Doctor” sessions, the physicians offered expert advice about healthcare topics tailored to individual families and provided information about key developmental milestones, all within a friendly and supportive environment. Those in attendance were grateful to have their questions answered about growth, development and nutrition. In addition, the school’s teachers and staff took the opportunity to use the physicians as an educational resource, learning about the health concerns that they hear about frequently from the students and their families.



## Countywide Holiday Food Drive to Benefit Greater Chicago Food Depository

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Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD) Executive Director and CEO Kate Maehr partnered to announce a Holiday Food Drive and urged County residents to help feed the hungry in our community. According to Feeding America, one in six children in Illinois struggles with hunger. In Cook County, more than 661,000 children, adults and elderly will experience food insecurity this year. This food drive is an opportunity to make an impact on hunger across Cook County during this season of giving.

Last year, the Food Depository distributed 69 million pounds of food, 37% of which was fresh produce. Every day they distribute the equivalent of 159,000 meals. Under the leadership of President Preckwinkle, Cook County Government has worked closely with the Food Depository, launching the Cook County Food Access Task Force together to enhance access to food insecurity screenings, promote access to school breakfast and summer meals at suburban schools and communities, and continue to find ways to ensure that everyone throughout the County has access to nutritious meals.

The Health System helps food-insecure patients—those who lack consistent access to enough food or healthy food—throughout the year. This includes a partnership with the GCFD to connect patients and their families to fresh produce, and those who screen positive for food insecurity are given vouchers that can be redeemed for free fresh fruit and vegetables on the FRESH Truck, a walk-through refrigerated vehicle lined with shelves of fresh produce.

Holiday Food Drive donors can visit <http://www.myfooddrive.org/#CookCounty2018> and shop for products in a virtual grocery store, and all proceeds from the food drive will be used to purchase food for hungry people. The food drive runs through December 31.

## CORE Center Celebrates 20-Year Anniversary



Pictured from left to right: Debra Carey, Deputy CEO for Operations, CCH; Dr. Toyin Adeyemi, Senior Director for HIV Services, CCH; Dr. Jay Shannon, Chief Executive Officer, CCH; Dr. David Schwartz, Chair of Infectious Diseases, CCH; Toni Preckwinkle, President, Cook County Board of Commissioners; Peter McLyod, Consumer Development and Advocacy Coordinator, CORE Center; Kathi Braswell, Executive Director, CORE Center; London Benton, activist; Dr. Larry Goodman, CEO, Rush System and Rush University Medical Center; John Peller, President/CEO, AIDS Foundation of Chicago

The Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center, established as a partnership between the Cook County Health and Rush University Medical Center, celebrated two decades of providing excellence in prevention, care and research of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases at a 20-Year Anniversary event last month.

The festivities and events included a connection to World AIDS Day, the first ever global health day designated by the World Health Organization, which is commemorated on December 1 each year. It's an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, to show support for people living with HIV, and to remember those who have died from an AIDS-related illnesses.

CORE is a proud partner of Getting to Zero Illinois, a statewide initiative to end the HIV epidemic by 2030 in collaboration with community-based organizations, health care providers, government agencies, people living with HIV, and other committed community members. This can be achieved by getting 20% more people living with HIV virally suppressed and 20% more people vulnerable on pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). With an expertise in clinical care, research and education, a diverse work force, community partnerships and dedicated staff, CCH is honored to take a lead in these state-wide efforts towards the elimination of HIV/AIDS.



## United Airlines Delivers Smiles and Bear Hugs

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Young patients are all smiles as they receive teddy bears donated by United Airlines.

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Pediatric patients at Stroger Hospital received a surprise visit from United Airlines employees who handed out teddy bear "Ben Flyin" as part of the United Adventure Bear program, which supports local hospitals and charities and aims to lift the spirits of children across the globe. We are so grateful for our friends at United Airlines for bringing tremendous joy to some of our youngest patients!



# Cook County Policy Roadmap

Five-Year Strategic Plan for Offices Under the President



Earlier this month, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle unveiled the Cook County *Policy Roadmap*, a strategic plan guiding steps toward a brighter Cook County. The [\*Policy Roadmap\*](#) outlines objectives and strategies for creating a fairer, more equitable Cook County by building vibrant, sustainable and inclusive communities where people want to live, learn, work and play.

In partnership with CCH, President Preckwinkle's administration has expanded its public health scope by creating and expanding the CountyCare Medicaid managed health plan. Due to this expansion and the Affordable Care Act, more than 300,000 residents annually have access to vital, high quality, affordable health services. In addition, more than 16,000 justice-involved individuals have enrolled in Medicaid, qualifying them to access healthcare services in the community when they are released from jail. In addition to these vital healthcare-related initiatives, the *Policy Roadmap* sets forth objectives and strategies to address the social and environmental conditions that effect residents' health, including access to housing, safe recreational spaces, and clean air and drinkable water.

## A Night Out for County Health

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The Cook County Health Foundation Associate Board, which is comprised of young professionals who work to increase awareness, raise money, and lay the foundation for future philanthropic support of CCH, hosted a Night Out for County Health, where they raised more than \$25,000 for labor and delivery services. Congratulations and thank you for all your hard work!



### Physician Profile:

#### Dr. Tarlan Hedayati

As a second-generation physician at Stroger Hospital, Dr. Tarlan Hedayati has devoted her career to working on the front lines of patient care, taking pride in treating all patients regardless of immigration status or ability to pay. With extensive knowledge in all areas of emergency medicine, Dr. Hedayati has a particular interest in cardiac emergencies and resuscitation, including diagnosis and management of cardiac arrest, heart attacks, abnormal cardiac rhythms, pacemakers, and heart failure. Dr. Hedayati is also committed to medical education and training future generations of medical providers. Dr. Hedayati, who is fluent in Farsi and Spanish, is currently working on multiple research projects involving emergency care, focusing on how to improve everyday practices and how physicians interface with patients.



## Cook County Health in the News

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# Daily Herald

[Lung Cancer Awareness Month](#)

[Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center Celebrates 20 Years of Remarkable Success in HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care and Research](#)

BECKER'S

## **HOSPITAL REVIEW**

[Corner Office: Cook County Health and Hospitals System CEO Dr. John Jay Shannon on the importance of strong teams](#)



[Doctors Fire Back After NRA Tells Them to 'Stay in Their Lane'](#)

[A Look Inside 'Old' Cook County Hospital's \\$145M Facelift](#)



**ABC 7 CHICAGO**

[Chicago Weather: After Snowstorm, Temperatures to Drop to Single Digits in Some Chicago Suburbs](#)

## **Watch us on CAN TV**

Every month, Cook County Health features a guest expert on CAN TV to offer viewers information on various health topics, such as heart disease and breast cancer, and discuss prevention and treatment strategies. Be sure to tune in to CAN TV on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. to catch CCH's monthly segment, and call in with your health questions at 312-738-1060. To find archived episodes, visit YouTube and look for the [Community Health Hotline](#). The next show will air on Tuesday, December 11 at 5 p.m.

## **Cook County Health in the Community: Fall Events**

CCH's outreach team participates in a variety of community events throughout Cook County. Whether it is a health fair, festival, job fair or community picnic, CCH's outreach workers make sure that Cook County residents know about the full portfolio the system provides. If you would like to know where CCH will be this month, please check our [calendar of events](#).

**Visit Our Website at [cookcountyhhs.org](http://cookcountyhhs.org).**

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

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