



COOK COUNTY HEALTH

ISRAEL ROCHA, JR.
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Addendum to slide deck)
June 25, 2021

This month, Cook County Health was awarded funding for \$1.5 million over three years by the Health Resources and Services Administration. This grant will support Cook County Health's Sexual Nurse Assault Examiner program, which trains nurses to care for patients who have been sexually assaulted or abused. Congratulations to:

- **Amir Budhwani**, Assistant Grant Management Director
- **Juandalynn Johnson**, Grants Program Manager
- **Heather Prescario**, Interim Lead, Emergency Medicine
- **Beena Peters**, Chief Nursing Officer
- **Leticia Reyes-Nash**, Director of Programmatic Services and Innovation
- **Whitney Towey**, Grant Writer
- **Serena Valino**, Nurse Coordinator, Emergency Services
- **Ashanté Wells-Baines**, Administrative Analyst, Emergency Medicine

The Cook County Department of Emergency Medicine is working to ensure minority patients, including LGBTQ+ patients, feel safe and comfortable when seeking care in the Emergency Department. Among the initiatives to promote a more diverse and inclusive environment within the Department of Emergency Medicine, staff have developed a lecture series and care simulations focused on minority patients, held focus groups and distributed pronoun buttons. The Department is also working to improve experiences for staff by promoting diversity within the emergency residency program and creating a safe space for these individuals once recruited. The Department created the Diversity Externship Scholarship for fourth-year medical students that is geared toward ethnic, racial, sexual and gender minorities.

Thank you to the following staff for participating in this initiative:

- **Dr. Ashlea Winfield**, Chair of Diversity and Inclusion Committee for the Department of Emergency Medicine and Assistant Program Director
- **Dr. Anthony Alexander**, Resident, Anesthesia
- **Dr. Dhara Amin**, Director of Quality Improvement and Patient Safety and Attending Physician
- **Dr. Victor Bui**, Resident, Emergency Medicine
- **Elizabeth Ciennik**, Physician Assistant, Emergency Medicine
- **Dr. Emily DeDonato**, Simulation Fellow
- **Dr. Sean Dyer**, Clerkship Director and Attending Physician
- **Dr. Ameera Haamid**, Asst. Medical Director of Emergency Medical Services and Attending Physician
- **Dr. Asma Hashim**, Resident, Emergency Medicine
- **Dr. Melissa Hoshizaki**, Resident, Emergency Medicine
- **Dr. Jennifer Lee**, Resident, Emergency Medicine
- **Dr. Bobby Needleman**, Assistant Program Director, Emergency Medicine
- **Dr. Adrian Robles**, Resident, Emergency Medicine
- **Dr. Michael Schindlbeck**, Program Director and Attending Physician, Emergency Medicine
- **Dr. Michelle Sergel**, Director, Cook County Health Simulation Center
- **Dr. Pankti Thakkar**, Resident, Emergency Medicine
- **Dr. Larissa Unruh**, Resident, Emergency Medicine

Cook County will be recognized by the National Association of Counties (NACo) with two 2021 Achievement Awards for work being done by Cook County Health related to housing and COVID-19 mitigation at the Cook County Jail. The awards will be presented at the NACo conference in July.

Housing is Health: In collaboration with Housing Forward, a homeless services and housing agency in West Suburban Cook County, a Medical Respite Center in Oak Park was opened in December 2020. The center serves individuals who have been discharged from the hospital but are insecurely housed and cannot return or go to a shelter. **Christine Haley**, Director of Housing, serves as the center's Clinical Administrator, and **Dr. Keiki Hinami**, general internist and physician researcher with Cook County Health, serves as the center's Medical Director. The center has 19 beds, six of which are dedicated for COVID-19 isolation. At the center, clients can continue their recuperation and receive necessary medical services that are generally provided on an outpatient basis, such as IV antibiotics and post-procedural wound care. Clients also receive supportive services, including housing case management, assistance applying for benefits, medication education and assistance, and are visited by volunteer physicians. Homelessness and housing insecurity present significant challenges to individuals working to stabilize their health. The Medical Respite Center is one component of CCH's strategy to address the social determinants of health that disproportionately impact our communities and improve the health of our most vulnerable patients.

COVID-19 Mitigation at Cook County Jail: When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the congregate nature typical of correctional facilities, combined with the unique challenges of housing and keeping safe individuals in the custody of law enforcement, required immediate coordination and cooperation between CCH, the Cook County Sheriff's Department (CCSO) and their partners. Collective and aggressive efforts by CCH, CCSO, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Chicago Department of Public Health resulted in significant containment and mitigation of the spread of COVID-19 at the Cook County Jail (CCJ). Implementation of widespread testing, added or reconfigured housing for detainees, relentless social distancing and universal masking of staff and detainees together with extensive quarantining of COVID-19 cases and all new detainees resulted in a dramatic drop in the positivity rate and a major drop in the number of cases. However, after the early period of the pandemic, CCJ's COVID-19 positivity rate consistently stayed well below those of Cook County and Chicago. The COVID-19 mortality rate at CCJ has always been less than one-tenth of one per cent of the rate for the entire State of Illinois. The Cermak Health Services team, led by **Dr. Connie Mennella**, Chief Medical Officer, and **Manny Estrada**, Chief Operating Officer, has become a national leader in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in a correctional setting.

Food As Medicine

- As access to healthy food remains a great need for our patients and communities, the Fresh Truck partnership between Cook County Health (CCH) and the Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD) continues. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic required CCH and GCFD to develop and implement revised protocols for the Fresh Truck distributions that allow for appropriate screenings and social distancing to protect patients, as well as CCH and GCFD staff and volunteers. These revised protocols are in place until further notice.

Through June 15, CCH's Fresh Truck partnership with the GCFD resulted in 331 visits to CCH health centers – Arlington Heights, Austin, Blue Island, the CORE Center, Cottage Grove, Englewood, Logan Square, North Riverside, Provident/Sengstacke, Prieto, and Robbins.

Collectively, the Fresh Truck distributions have resulted in the provision of fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as some shelf stable items during the COVID-19 pandemic, to an estimated 39,092 individuals, representing 129,431 household members, totaling more than 854,250 pounds of food. Most of the

individuals benefiting from the Fresh Truck screened positive for food insecurity at a CCH health center visit.

The GCFD's Fresh Food Truck visits for the month of June include the following ACHN Health Centers:

July 1 – **Prieto Health Center** – 2424 S. Pulaski Road, Chicago, IL 60623

July 13 – **Provident Hospital/Sengstacke Health Center** – 500 W. 51st Street, Chicago, IL 60615

July 15 – **Arlington Heights** – 3520 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60004

July 16 – **CORE Center** – 2020 W. Harrison Street, Chicago, IL 60612

July 22 – **Blue Island Health Center** – 12757 S. Western Ave., Blue Island, IL 60406

July 27 – **Logan Square Health Center** – 2840 W. Fullerton Avenue, Chicago, IL 60647

IMPACT 2023 Objective 5.1C

Community Advisory Councils

- Cook County Health Community Advisory Councils (CAC) include patients, community and religious organizations and provides an opportunity to engage patients, organizations and civic leaders in the communities where our centers are located. The Councils provide feedback to our staff and help strengthen our health centers' relationships in the community. The Councils meet quarterly to provide current information on Cook County Health and as an avenue for members to share information about their organizations.

Upcoming CAC meeting dates:

North Riverside: Wednesdays at 1:00 PM: September 15, December 15

Englewood: Thursdays at 1:00 PM: September 16, December 16

Provident Hospital/Sengstacke Health Center: Wednesdays at 10:00 AM: July 14, October 13

Cottage Grove: Tuesdays at 1:00 PM: July 27, October 26

Robbins: Tuesdays at 1:00 PM: August 17, November 16

Arlington Heights: Tuesdays at 1:00 PM: August 24, November 23

IMPACT 2023 Focus Area 5

CCH Sponsored Events

Cook County Health will be participating in **Commissioner Frank Aguilar's Virtual HIV Awareness Event**. An English language session will take place on June 29, 2021, and a Spanish language one will take place on June 30, 2021. The event will address HIV Awareness, Health Equity, Prevention, Testing, & Treatment. Core Center's Dr. Pamela Vergara-Rodriguez and a representative from the CCHIP Austin site will participate. Some participating organizations include the AIDS Foundation, Calor, Corazon, The Hub, Youth Outreach and others. You can sign up for participation at www.eventbrite.com/e/district-16-hiv-awareness-event-english-tickets-159867.

On Wednesday, July 28, 2021, a **CountyCare Enrollee Advisory Committee (EAC)** meeting will take place at the North Riverside Health Center located at 1800 S. Harlem Avenue in North Riverside. The EAC meeting provides CountyCare Health Plan members with an opportunity to have an open dialogue with staff on the plan and its benefits. About 1,500 invitations, each containing a survey, will be mailed to CountyCare members who reside in proximity to this location.

Media, social media reports and other documents attached.

Legislative Update

Local

- On June 22, the Cook County Board's Health & Hospitals Committee held their monthly meeting. The agenda included a *COVID-19 Vaccine and Contact Tracing Update* from CCH CEO Israel Rocha and CCDPH Co-Leads Dr. Kiran Joshi and Dr. Rachel Rubin. The agenda also included a presentation by CCH on the two 2021 NACo (National Association of Counties Organization) Achievement Awards received by CCH for our Housing is Health Respite Housing Initiative and CCH's efforts to manage and mitigate COVID-19 at the Cook County Jail.

The next meeting of the Cook County Board's Health & Hospitals Committee is scheduled for July 20. At that meeting CCDPH will present their *Second Annual Quarterly Report*.

CCH will continue to provide a *COVID-19 Vaccine and Contact Tracing Update* to the committee every month through the end of calendar year 2021.

- On June 22, the Cook County Board's Human Relations Committee approved a resolution calling on all offices and agencies of Cook County government to update all documents and forms to be gender inclusive.
- On June 23, the Cook County Board's Asset Management Committee approved the transfer of the Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center Building from the CORE Foundation to Cook County. The CORE Foundation previously approved the transfer.
- On June 23, the Cook County Board's Legislation and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee approved the appointment of Lyndon Taylor to the Cook County Health Board of Directors. On June 24, the Cook County Board ratified the appointment. The appointment is effective July 1, 2021 and expires June 30, 2025.

State

- The Illinois General Assembly's regular session ended May 31, but legislators have continued to convene to address issues that were unresolved during the regular session and to correct technical issues with the FY2022 budget.

Over 7,800 bills and resolutions were filed by House and Senate members in the spring legislative session. The legislature passed a total of 664 bills, including a \$42B FY2022 state budget, new legislative maps, an ethics reform package, a Medicaid omnibus bill, and authorizing an elected school board in Chicago. Once bills are sent to the Governor, he has 60 days to take action; if he takes no action, the bill automatically becomes law on day 61.

Legislation of interest to CCH awaiting action by the Governor includes:

- [SB1840](#) – Joint effort between Cook County and Cook County Health to improve health equity and access to care by increasing transparency and reporting requirements in nonprofit hospital community benefits reports and improving the process for uninsured patients to access hospital-based services. CCH is working with stakeholders to ensure successful implementation.
- [SB2017](#) (2022 Budget Implementation Bill or BIMP) includes expansion of Medicaid-like coverage to immigrants 55 – 64 years old with income less than 138% FPL, with coverage starting no later than May 2022. This builds on the Medicaid-like expansion for older adult immigrants authorized in the FY2021 BIMP.
- [SB2294](#) (Medicaid omnibus) – Adds additional covered services and providers to the Medicaid program, increases reimbursement rates for certain dental codes for adults and children as well as administrative fees for immunizations provided to children, and makes other changes related to Medicaid.

- [SB818](#) – Requires Illinois public and charter schools to teach comprehensive personal health and safety education in grades K-5 and comprehensive sexual health education in grades 6-12 that is age and developmentally appropriate, medically accurate, complete, culturally appropriate, inclusive, and trauma informed.
- [HB1063](#) – Repeals harmful and outdated HIV criminalization law and treats HIV like any other chronic disease, using proven and effective public health strategies.
- [HB3308](#) – Makes permanent (until 2027 for most services) telehealth coverage, reimbursement, and flexibilities initiated in response to COVID-19. While the bill only applies to private insurance plans regulated by the Illinois Department of Insurance, the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) has agreed to payment parity and coverage of telehealth for Medicaid beneficiaries beyond the end of the pandemic, as permitted by the telehealth administrative rules filed last year. HFS intends to meet with stakeholders over the next several months to determine what, if any legislative changes need to be in place.
- [HB3739](#) requires local lead service line replacement and creates a low-income assistance program to help fund water infrastructure projects, including replacement.

The fall veto session is currently scheduled to take place October 19-21 and 26-28.

- The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services began accepting stakeholder feedback on the [Feasibility Report for Coverage Affordability](#), which outlines several policy options that Illinois can undertake to reduce the number of uninsured residents, improve health equity, and improve health care affordability. The June 3 Public Education Subcommittee of the Medicaid Advisory Committee was the first of these feedback sessions, with additional stakeholder engagement sessions to take place over the next several weeks.

Federal

- ***California v. Texas*** – On June 17, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that Texas and the other states seeking to overturn the entire Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) lacked standing to bring the complaint because they had not demonstrated that they had been harmed by the law. Six justices joined Justice Breyer’s opinion for the majority. With most of the increasingly conservative Court declining to even rule on the merits, legal analysts believe that there will be no further serious legal challenges to the ACA.
- **FY 2022 Budget and Appropriations** – On May 28, President Biden submitted his budget request to Congress for FY 2022, which begins on October 1. The budget proposes \$769 billion for non-defense discretionary programs, a 16% increase over current levels. It proposes \$753 billion for defense programs, a 1.7% increase over current levels. The budget also proposes to fund the core provisions of the President’s earlier *Build Back Better* proposals, the American Jobs Plan and the American Families Plan.

While it expresses support for other major proposals from Biden’s campaign platform, including creating a public health insurance option, expanding Medicare, and lowering prescription drug prices, the budget documents do not make specific legislative or budgetary proposals to implement them.

The budget proposes raising taxes on corporations and high-income households to offset some of the spending increases.

House Appropriations Subcommittees will mark up their bills before the end of June and the full Committee plans to finish marking the bills up by the middle of July. The Senate will likely move forward in July. We still expect one or more continuing resolutions will be needed to keep the government funded after the start of the fiscal year, until a bipartisan, bicameral agreement can be reached.

While the budget does call for increased federal spending on the Medicaid program, the increases are focused on the proposal to expand home and community-based services (HCBS) for elderly and disabled Americans, and to raise the pay for the workers that provide those services, as outlined in the *American Jobs Plan*.

Budget requests for other HHS programs of note include:

- Hospital Preparedness Program: The budget proposes \$292 million for HPP, an increase of \$11 million over current funding levels.
 - Behavioral Health:
 - The budget proposes \$3.5 billion for the Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Block Grant, an increase of \$1.7 billion over current funding levels.
 - Likewise, it proposes \$1.6 billion for the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant, an increase of \$825 million over current funding levels.
 - It also proposes \$10.7 billion to address the opioid epidemic, an increase of \$3.9 billion.
 - Public Health:
 - The budget proposes \$8.7 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an increase of \$1.6 billion over current funding levels. The increased funding is intended to improve preparedness for future public health crises, including support for core capabilities in state and local public health departments.
 - The proposal also includes \$153 million for the Social Determinants of Health program.
 - The budget proposes \$695 million for Public Health Emergency Preparedness, the same as was appropriated for this year.
 - Gun Violence:
 - The budget proposes \$2.1 billion to address gun violence as a public health epidemic, \$232 million over current funding levels. This funding includes \$200 million for a new Community Violence Intervention initiative.
- **Biden Administration** – On May 25, Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, President Biden’s nominee for Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), was confirmed by the Senate in a vote of 55–44. She was sworn in by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra on May 27. Brooks-LaSure has indicated that her top priorities at CMS will include expanding health insurance coverage and ensuring health equity.
 - **Provider Relief Fund** – On June 11, HHS, through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), released revised reporting requirements for Provider Relief Fund (PRF) recipients. The announcement included extending the amount of time providers will have to report information. The period of availability of funds is based on the date the payment is received (rather than requiring all payments be used by June 30, 2021, regardless of when they were received). Under the new guidance, recipients will have a 90-day period to complete reporting (rather than a 30-day reporting period).
 - **Biden “American Jobs Plan” and “American Families Plan”** – While negotiations on a potential bi-partisan infrastructure/jobs bill continue, Congressional Democrats are preparing to “go it alone” and advance a larger package via budget reconciliation rules.

America’s Essential Hospitals continues to advocate that the infrastructure package should include funding for safety net hospitals, including hospital capital investments (e.g., a renewed Hill-Burton program as envisioned by House Energy and Commerce Democrats), digital infrastructure, emergency preparedness and workforce development.

Media Dashboard



Insights and Activity Report

May 22 – June 18, 2021



COOK COUNTY
HEALTH

Earned Media Dashboard: May – June 18, 2021



Total Media Placements

289



Total Reach

**930.4 Million
People**



Total Media Value

\$9.3 Million

Top 5 Local Media Outlets

1. *ABC 7 Chicago – 31*
2. *NBC 5 Chicago – 27*
3. *WBBM Radio – 25*
4. *CBS-2 – 20*
5. *Chicago Tribune – 18*

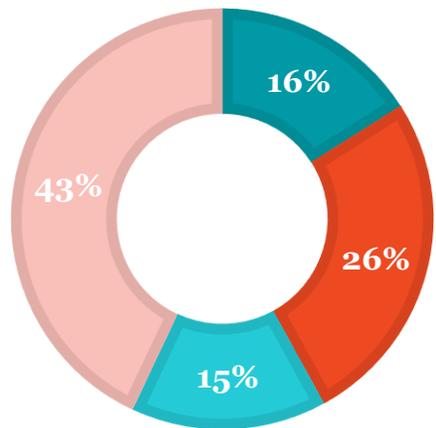
Top National Media Outlets

1. *Yahoo! News*
2. *MSN*
3. *AP*



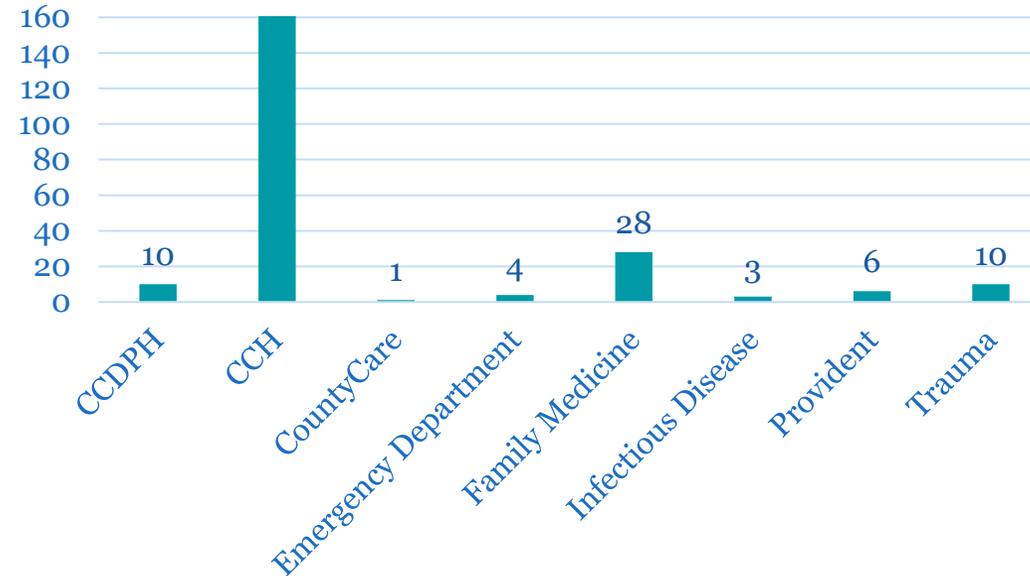
Media Dashboard: May 22 – June 18, 2021

Media Outlet Type



■ Web ■ Print ■ Radio ■ Television

Media Mentions by Department



Most Common Topics

1. Closure of mass vaccination sites
2. Six Flags Great America vaccine promotion
3. Chicago White Sox pop-up vaccination event series
4. Precautions as reopening begins
5. Johnson & Johnson vaccine being administered at Cook County Health sites

Recent Cook County Health COVID-19 Media Coverage

2,123 Media Hits on COVID-19 since February 2020



Cook County closing mass vaccination sites in Tinley Park, South Holland, River Grove



Mask shaming: Illinois has reopened, but some of us are still wearing masks. How does that make you feel?



Cook County Health's Dr. Nimmi Rajagopal Discusses Vaccination Rates in South Suburbs



Vaccination strategies pivot to spur greater patient engagement



Chicago White Sox are offering COVID-19 shots Friday and Saturday, promising the vaccine's benefits and \$25 ballpark gift cards



ER's could be busy this summer, after year of COVID lockdown



Social Media Influencers in Cook County Promote Vaccine: 'Just Go Do It'



COOK COUNTY
HEALTH

Social Media Summary

May – June Activity

During May 22– June 18, the communications team posted content on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn for Cook County Health.

Posts included content such as COVID-19, interviews with local media, recognition for physicians and the hospital, and health tips.

Facebook – 49 posts + 6 stories

<https://www.facebook.com/Cookcountyhhs/>

Instagram – 34 posts + 14 stories + 2 IGTV

<https://www.instagram.com/cookcountyhealth/>

Twitter – 50 (includes retweets)

<https://twitter.com/CookCtyHealth>

LinkedIn – 6 posts

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/cook-county-health/>

Social Media Insights

As of June 18

Twitter (28-Day Summary)

- Impressions: **36.4**
- Profile visits: **1.9K**
- Mentions: **95** (up **10.5%**)
- Followers: **4,050** (up **20**)

LinkedIn (30-Day Summary)

- Impressions: **13K**
- Unique visitors: **497**
- Followers: **6,687** (up **85**)

Facebook (28-Day Summary)

- Post reach: **757.8K**
- Post engagement: **14.9K**
- Page views: **1.5K**
- Page likes: **5,620** (up **70**)
- Page followers: **7,277** (up **77**)

Instagram (30-Day Summary)

- Impressions: **15.9K**
- Reach: **1.2K**
- Profile visits: **397**
- Followers: **2,411** (up **16**)

Top Social Media Posts

May 22 – June 18



COOK COUNTY
HEALTH

Top Social Media Posts: Facebook

Post Performance

- Reach: **62.6**
- Clicks: **115**

 **Cook County Health** ✓
June 4 · 🌐

BBQs, block parties, weddings, graduations. Summer is here – and it will be better if you're vaccinated against COVID-19. No appointment needed for a FREE shot at Thornton Township High School in Harvey. Click or call 312-864-0591 to get yours today.



**SUMMER IS HERE!
DON'T MISS YOUR SHOT.**

Top Social Media Posts: Facebook

Post Performance

- Reach: **6.1K**
- Reactions, comments and shares: **117**



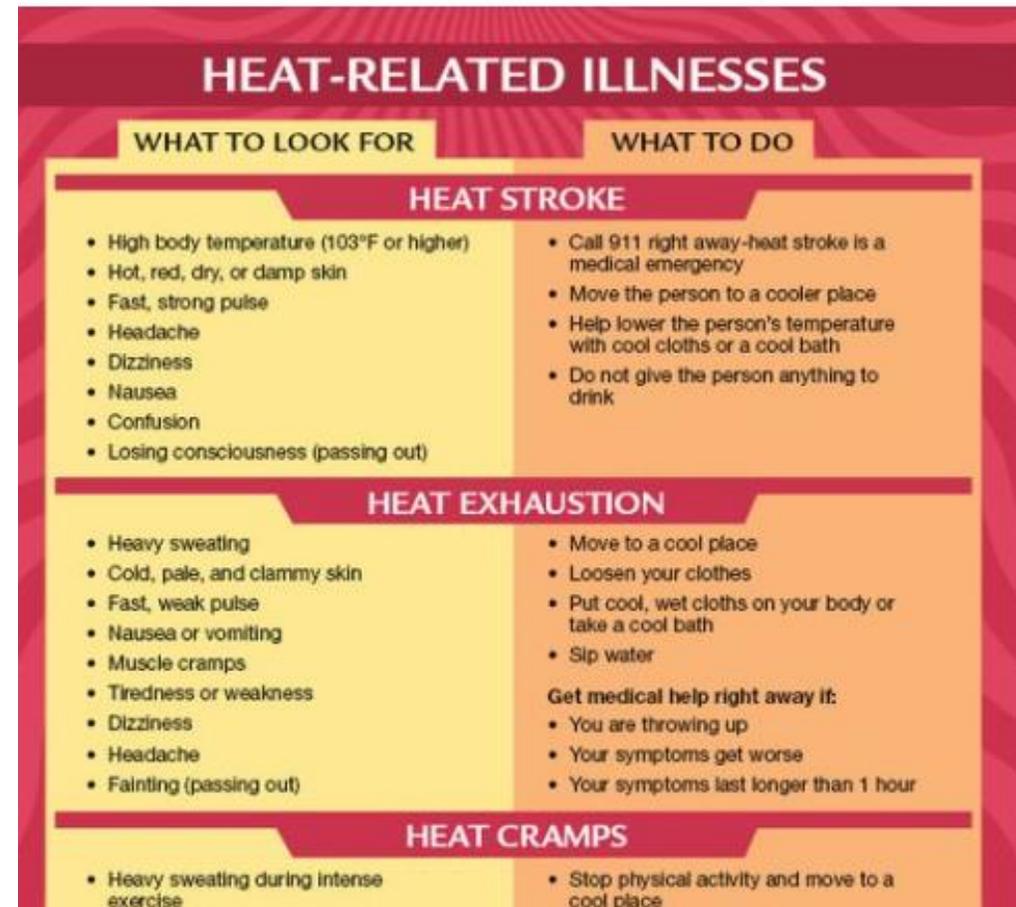
Cook County Health ✓

3d · 🌐



Stay cool, Cook County. Temperatures are expected to be at or near 90 degrees over the next few days. Watch out for symptoms of heat-related illnesses and learn when to seek out help.

<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/warning.html>



HEAT-RELATED ILLNESSES	
WHAT TO LOOK FOR	WHAT TO DO
HEAT STROKE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High body temperature (103°F or higher)• Hot, red, dry, or damp skin• Fast, strong pulse• Headache• Dizziness• Nausea• Confusion• Losing consciousness (passing out)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call 911 right away-heat stroke is a medical emergency• Move the person to a cooler place• Help lower the person's temperature with cool cloths or a cool bath• Do not give the person anything to drink
HEAT EXHAUSTION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heavy sweating• Cold, pale, and clammy skin• Fast, weak pulse• Nausea or vomiting• Muscle cramps• Tiredness or weakness• Dizziness• Headache• Fainting (passing out)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Move to a cool place• Loosen your clothes• Put cool, wet cloths on your body or take a cool bath• Sip water <p>Get medical help right away if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You are throwing up• Your symptoms get worse• Your symptoms last longer than 1 hour
HEAT CRAMPS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heavy sweating during intense exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stop physical activity and move to a cool place

Top Social Media Posts: Instagram

Post Performance

- Impressions: **521**
- Reach: **926**



Top Social Media Posts: Instagram

Post Performance

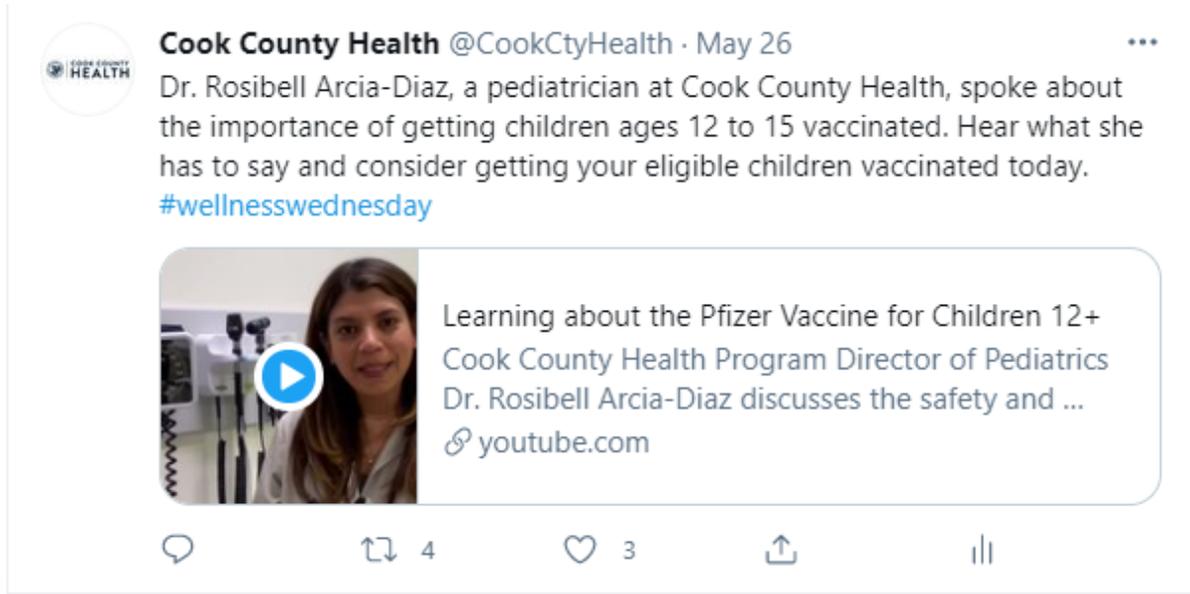
- Impressions: **555**
- Interactions: **27**
- Likes: **26**



Top Social Media Posts: Twitter

Post Performance

- Impressions: **1.9K**
- Total engagements: **17**



Top Social Media Posts: LinkedIn

Post Performance

- Impressions: **3.5K**
- Clicks: **618**
- Reactions: **52**





COOK COUNTY HEALTH

June 25, 2021

Dear Chairman Hammock and CCH Board of Directors,

Beginning this month, you will see a new report from the CCH Communications Department. We have a new platform for tracking and analyzing media stories, resulting in a more comprehensive overview of our earned media reach.

Moving forward, each month we will provide you with additional slides highlighting earned media metrics, including the total reach and estimated monetary value of our news stories which are widely used metrics in the public relations industry. The news clips will be provided in a table format with hyperlinks to the stories, now including radio spots. This reporting will capture more of our news coverage, provide important data on the scope of our work, and streamline our reporting. If you would prefer to receive the full text of all of the media stories, please do not hesitate to let me know.

We are looking forward to sharing with you these enhanced highlights of CCH's broad media reach. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you,

Caryn Stancik
Chief Communications and Marketing Officer