International Overdose Awareness Day

Aug 31st, 2025, Is Recognized As International Overdose Awareness Day The World's Largest Annual Campaign To End Overdose, Remember Those We Have Lost To An Overdose, Acknowledge The Grief Of The Family And Friends Left Behind, And Renew Our Commitment To End Overdose And Related Harms. The Campaign Raises Awareness Of Overdose, Which Is One Of The World's Worst Public Health Crises And Stimulates Action And Discussion About Evidence–Based Overdose Prevention And Drug Policy.

Alert: Carfentanil Identified in Chicago's Drug Supply – www.chicagohan.org)

Summary And Action Items

- From January 2024 To June 2025, Of **1,253 Drug Samples Tested** In Chicago Available For Analysis, The Following Substances Detected Included But Were Not Limited To: **Fentanyl (43%)**, Nitazene (12%), Designer Benzodiazepines (11%), Xylazine (8%), Medetomidine (6%), Btmps (5%), And Lidocaine (3%).
- Four Samples Contained Carfentanil, An Analogue Of Fentanyl, That Is 100
 Times More Potent Than Fentanyl.
- Continue To Call 911 And Provide Naloxone For All Suspected Drug Overdoses.
- Report Overdoses With Atypical Features To The Illinois Poison Center (1-800-222-1222) To Coordinate Send Out Of Drug And Biospecimen Samples For Toxicology Testing.
- Report Clusters Of Overdoses To The CDPH Medical Director Or Call (311).
- Counsel Patients And Clients On The Unpredictability Of The Illegal Drug Supply, Encourage Safer User Practices, And Consider Immediate Initiation Of Buprenorphine Or Other Medications For Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)
 For Patients Whose Overdose Was Reversed With Naloxone.

Drug Checking Data

- From January 2024 To June 2025, There Were 1,253 Drug Samples Tested By 3 Harm Reduction Organizations Funded By Cdph For Drug Checking Services.
- Most (33%) Were Sold As Dope, Followed By Ketamine (11%) And Cocaine/Crack Cocaine (10%).
- •While Drugs Sold As Fentanyl, Cocaine/Crack Cocaine, Ketamine, MDMA/Ecstasy, And Methamphetamine Usually Contained The Expected Substance, *Only 35% Of Drugs Sold As Heroin Contained Heroin*.
- *43% Of Samples Contained Fentanyl; 12% Contained Nitazenes, 11% Contained A Benzodiazepine, 8% Contained Xylazine, 6% Contained Medetomidine, 5% Contained Btmps, And 3% Contained Lidocaine.
- Four Samples Contained Carfentanil; 3 Were Sold As Dope And 1 As Heroin.

 The Most Recent Sample Collected Was In March 2025. In All Cases, Carfentanil Was Detected Only Through Mass Spectroscopy.



As Transforming Educating & Empowering Children & Humanity (Dba Teech) And The Far Southside Initiative (FSSRi) Step Into The Vibrant Month Of August, We Are Excited To Bring You The Latest Updates, News, And Insights From Our Community. This Month Promises To Be Filled With Exciting Events, Important Announcements, And Valuable Information That You Won't Want To Miss. Whether You're Looking To Stay Informed About Our Latest Projects, Upcoming Events, Or Simply Want To Catch Up On What's Been Happening, We've Got You Covered.



Successful Diversions and the Importance of Community Input

Since July 1st, We Have Successfully Achieved Five Diversions From Incarceration To Supportive Services. Specifically, Two Individuals Have Been Diverted To Treatment Programs, Two Others Have Been Placed In Recovery Homes, And One Has Received Mental Health Assistance. This Approach Not Only Provides The Necessary Support And Resources For Those In Need But Also Emphasizes The Importance Of Recovery Over Incarceration. Your Input On The Survey Below Is Crucial For Us To Continue Making A Positive Impact, Creating Change, And Fostering Community Unity.

Your Opinion Matters: Complete Our Survey

Your Voice Is Essential In Helping Us Enhance Our Community. By Sharing Your Thoughts And Experiences, You Enable Us To Understand The Unique Needs And Aspirations Of Our Community Members. Together, We Can Create A More Vibrant, Inclusive, And Supportive Environment For Everyone. Please Take A Few Moments To Complete The Survey Below. Your Participation Is Greatly Appreciated And Will Contribute To The Continued Success Of Our Initiatives. Thank You For Your Time And Support!





Scan me!

Spanish



Scan me!

Back To School: A Time For New Beginings

As The Summer Days Come To An End, We Welcome The Start Of A New School Year With Open Arms And Hearts Full Of Hope. This Is A Special Time For Our Community, As We Come Together To Support Our Children In Their Journey Of Learning And Growth. To Our Students, Remember That Every New School Year Is A Fresh Start, A Chance To Set New Goals And Achieve Great Things. Embrace The Opportunities That Come Your Way, And Don't Be Afraid To Step Out Of Your Comfort Zone. Your Curiosity, Determination, And Hard Work Will Pave The Way For A Bright Future.

To Our Parents, Teachers, And Community Members, Your Support And Encouragement Are Invaluable. Let's Work Together To Create A Nurturing And Inspiring Environment For Our Children. Your Involvement Makes A Significant Difference In Their Lives, And Together, We Can Help Them Reach Their Full Potential. As We Embark On This New Academic Year, Let's Celebrate The Spirit Of Learning And The Power Of Community. Here's To A Successful And Fulfilling School Year For Everyone!

The Impact of Addiction on Returning Students

It's Important To Remember The Profound Impact Addiction Can Have On Children. It Is Possible That Addiction Can Affect Their Academic Performance, Social Interactions, And Overall Well-Being. Children Exposed To Addiction, Whether Through Their Own Substance Use Or That Of A Family Member, Often Experience Lower Grades, More Frequent Absences, And Emotional Distress. They May Struggle With Forming Healthy Relationships, Face Serious Health Risks, And Have An Increased Likelihood Of Dropping Out Of School.



Addressing Addiction And Providing Support For Affected Children Is Crucial For Their Success. Early Intervention Is Key; Recognizing The Signs Of Addiction Early And Seeking Help Can Prevent Further Harm. Access To Counseling Services Is Essential, As Professional Support Can Help Children And Families Cope With The Challenges They Face. A Supportive Community Environment Is Also Vital. Encouraging Open Conversations About Addiction And Mental Health And Creating Safe Spaces Where Children Feel Comfortable Seeking Help, Can Make A Significant Difference. Educational Programs That Raise Awareness About The Dangers Of Addiction And Promote Healthy Lifestyles Are Also Important. These Programs Equip Children With The Knowledge And Skills They Need To Make Informed Decisions. Collaboration With Local Organizations, Healthcare Providers, And Government Agencies Can Create A Comprehensive Support Network, Ensuring That No Child Is Left Behind. Advocacy For Policies And Funding That Support Addiction Prevention And Treatment Programs Is Also Crucial. By Raising Our Voices, We Can Ensure That These Critical Services Are Available To All Who Need Them.

Together, We Can Help These Children Thrive Academically And Personally. Let's Come Together As A Community To Support Our Children And Ensure They Have The Tools They Need For A Successful School Year. By Taking These Steps, We Can Make A Significant Difference In The Lives Of Children Affected By Addiction. Let's Work Together To Build A Brighter Future For All.

Parents And Community: Safety First For Our Returning Students

1-Travel Safely: Whether You're Walking, Biking, Or Taking The Bus, Always Be Aware Of Your Surroundings. Use Crosswalks, Follow Traffic Signals, And Avoid Distractions Like Using Your Phone While Crossing The Street.

2 -Stay Healthy: Maintain Good Hygiene Practices Such As Washing Your Hands Regularly, Using Hand Sanitizer, And Covering Your Mouth And Nose When Coughing Or Sneezing. If You're Feeling Unwell, It's Best To Stay Home And Rest.

3-Be Prepared: Make Sure You Have All The Necessary Supplies For School. Keep A Small First Aid Kit In Your Backpack For Emergencies.

4-Stay Connected: Keep Your Cell Phone Charged And Stay In Touch With Your Parents Or Guardians Throughout The Day. Let Them Know Your Schedule And Inform Them Of Any Changes. It's Also A Good Idea To Have A List Of Emergency Contacts.

5-Follow School Rules: Adhere To The Safety Guidelines And Protocols Set By Your School.

6- Be Cyber-safe: If You're Using Online Platforms For Learning, Make Sure To Use Strong Passwords, Avoid Sharing Personal Information, And Be Cautious Of Suspicious Emails Or Messages.

7- Report Concerns: If You Notice Anything Unusual Or Feel Unsafe, Report It To A Trusted Adult, Teacher, Or School Staff Member Immediately. 3-

8- Stay Positive: A Positive Mindset Can Go A Long Way In Ensuring A Successful School Year. Stay Motivated, Be Kind To Others, And Don't Hesitate To Ask For Help If You Need It.





Back To School Drives Happening On The Far Southside

Communities Across The Far Southside Of Chicago Are Coming Together To Support Students And Families With Back-to-school Drives. These Events, Held In Neighborhoods Like Beverly, Morgan Park, Auburn Gresham, Englewood, Roseland, And Surrounding Areas, Aim To Provide Essential School Supplies To Ensure Every Student Is Prepared For A Successful Academic Year. These Drives Showcase Our Community's Unity And Generosity, Playing A Crucial Role In Helping Students Start The School Year On The Right Foot. We Encourage Everyone To Participate By Donating Supplies, Volunteering, Or Spreading The Word. Together, We Can Ensure Every Child Has The Tools They Need To Thrive. For More Information On How To Get Supplies Or Get Involved, Check Resource Boards, Libraries, And Social Media Platforms Like Facebook And Instagram.







Introducing The Mobile Harm Reduction And Education Van On The Far Southside

Far Southside ROSC And Alliance Care 360 Are Excited To Announce That We Made Our First Appearance On The Far Southside Of Chicago With The Mobile Harm Reduction, HIV/STI Prevention, And Education Van, The First Of Its Kind In The Area. We Will Be Returning Monthly To Identified Areas, And Updates Will Be Sent Out Regularly.









Upcoming Events Reminder

As We Move Through The Month, We Want To Remind You Of The Exciting Events We Have Lined Up. These Events Are Designed To Engage, Educate, And Empower Our Community, Offering Valuable Opportunities To Connect, Gain New Skills, And Access Essential Resources. From Workshops And Training Sessions To Community Meetings And Outreach Programs, There's Something For Everyone. Don't Miss Out On These Fantastic Opportunities To Get Involved And Make A Positive Impact. Be Sure To Check Your Emails And Our Social Media Channels For Updates And Details On Each Event. We Look Forward To Seeing You There And Working Together To Create A Stronger, More Connected Community.

Faith Leader's Symposium

FSSRI (TEECH) And The Rock Enterprises And Development Corp. (T.R.E.A.D) Are Pleased To Host A Faith Leader's Symposium With The Tent Of Meeting Int'l Fellowship. This Event Will Bring Together Faith Leaders From Various Faith-based Sectors To Fellowship And Provide Spiritual Support, Uniting The Community, Listening To The People, And Creating A Safe Space. The Symposium Aims To Foster A Sense Of Unity And Collaboration Among Faith Leaders From Diverse Backgrounds. This Gathering Will Also Serve As An Opportunity For Faith Leaders To Listen To The Concerns And Needs Of The Community, Identify Resources, And Address Issues Related To Recovery And Mental Health.





Speak-A-Thon And Resource Fair

FSSRI (TEECH), Building Bridges Collaboratively (BBC), And Kates Community Initiative Are Pleased To Host A Speak-athon And Resource Fair. This Event Will Provide A Platform For Community Members To Voice Their Concerns, Share Their Stories, And Access A Wide Range Of Resources Through Guest Speakers, Interactive Sessions, And Informational Booths.





We Look Forward To Seeing You There And Making A Positive Impact Together!

Events Below: Time, Date, And Location To Be Announced! FSSRI Will Host The Reentry Resource Fair To Support Individuals Reentering Society After Incarceration, Providing Job Training, Housing Assistance, And Healthcare Services To Help

Unhoused People Essential Drive

This Initiative Aims To Collect And Distribute Essential Items To Those In Need Within Our Community.

Them Reintegrate Successfully.

Teech Promotes Recovery Socialization And Engagement

Building Connections And Strengthening
Support Systems We Are Proud To Highlight
Some Of The Remarkable Achievements Of Our
Students And Community Members:





Community Collaboration

Community Involvement Through Events Is A Powerful Way To Bring People Together, Foster Connections, And Create A Sense Of Belonging. By Organizing And Participating In Local Events, Community Members Can Engage With One Another, Share Their Talents And Resources, And Work Collaboratively Towards Common Goals. Events Such As Festivals, Workshops, Clean-up Drives, And Charity Fundraisers Provide Opportunities For Individuals To Contribute To Their Community, Celebrate Its Diversity, And Address Local Issues. This Active Participation Not Only Strengthens Social Bonds But Also Empowers Individuals, Creating A Shared Sense Of Ownership And Pride In The Community's Achievements.

Cornerstone Health And Resource Fair









FSSRI/TEECH Supporting the **Community with Food Drives**







Promoting Recovery Certified Congregations In Waukegan

We Were All The Way In Waukegan Promoting Recovery Certified Congregations. This Initiative Aims To Recognize And Support Congregations That Are Committed To Providing A Welcoming And Supportive Environment For Individuals In Recovery. By Becoming A Certified Recovery Congregation, Faith Communities Can Play A Crucial Role In Promoting Recovery, Reducing Stigma, And Offering Valuable Resources To Those In Need. Our Efforts In Waukegan Are Part Of Our Broader Mission To Build Stronger, More Supportive Communities.



BECOME A CERTIFIED RECOVERY CONGREGATION: Illinois Faith @ Recovery Collaborative

We Are Thrilled To Announce That The Mental Health And Recovery Community Now Supports Multiple Pathways To Recovery. Individuals, Their Families, And The Broader Community Can Choose Their Own Recovery Journey. Recognizing The Vital Role Of The Church, We Are Offering Training To Congregations To Become Recovery Certified Congregations, Equipping Them With The Tools To Support Those Seeking Services. We Have Made Progress And Certified Numerous Churches In The Chicagoland Area And Have More Who Have Requested To Become A Certified Recovery Congregation.

For Training And Resources To Become Certified, Please Contact Rev. Dr. Karen White At (224) 406-3798 Or [Drkwhite@teechfoundation.net] (Mailto:drkwhite@teechfoundation.net). All Training And Supplies Are Provided Free Of Charge

- -Additional Training Opportunities
- -Printed Materials And Resources
- -Engagement In Advisory And Collaborative Groups
- Local Support Program Development Toolkits
- Technical Assistance And Support From The Center For Community Engagement



Positive Trends in Overdose Deaths and Harm Reduction Efforts in Chicago

Decreased Overdose Deaths And EMS Calls:Opioid And Drug-related Deaths And Overdose EMS Calls Appear To Be Declining In Chicago, According To A Recent CDPH Report.

Key Factors Driving Positive Trends In Overdose Deaths And Harm Reduction Efforts In Chicago

The Positive Trends In Overdose Deaths And Harm Reduction Efforts In Chicago Can Be Attributed To Several Key Factors. Increased Access To Harm Reduction Services, Such As Naloxone Distribution, Syringe Exchange Programs, And Fentanyl Test Strips, Has Significantly Reduced The Risk Of Overdose And Provided Immediate Assistance When Needed. Community-driven Harm Reduction Programs Have Proven Effective By Emphasizing Safety Over Abstinence And Offering Tailored Education, Treatment, And Recovery Support. Expanded Access To Medications For Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) Has Helped Individuals Manage Their Addiction And Reduce The Likelihood Of Overdose. Public Health Interventions Have Been Expanded To Educate People On Drug Safety And The Dangers Of Substance Use, Teaching Them How To Avoid Risky Behaviors. Efforts To Provide Targeted, Culturally Competent Health Solutions Within Communities Have Addressed The Specific Needs Of Different Populations. However, The Primary Factor Driving These Positive Trends Is The Collaboration Between Local Organizations, Healthcare Providers, And Government Agencies, Creating A Comprehensive Support Network That Ensures Individuals Have Access To The Resources And Support They Need To Recover And Stay Safe.

Reminders: Help Is Here: The Illinois Helpline For Opioids And Other Substances Is Available To Provide Support And Resources For Those In Need. You Can Reach The Helpline By Calling 833-findhelp (833-234-6343) Or By Texting "HELP" To 833234. This Service Is Available 24/7, 365 Days A Year, And Is Completely Free Of Charge. Whether You Or Someone You Know Is Struggling With Substance Use, The Helpline Offers Confidential Assistance, Connecting You To The Necessary Resources And Support To Help You On Your Recovery Journey.

TEECH Remains Committed To Enhancing Community Safety By Continuing To Install Narcan Machines Throughout Our Communities These Machines Are Crucial In Preventing Opioid Overdoses And Saving Lives. TEECH Remains Dedicated To Distributing Narcan And Hosting Training Sessions. If You Need Narcan Or Would Like To Attend A Training, Please Contact TEECH (224)406-3798.

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

People Can Call, Text, Or Chat With The 988 Number To Be Connected To Counselors From The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

Emergency Response Services

- For Emergencies, Dial 911.
- For Non-emergencies, Dial 211 Or 311.

Inspirational Reflection For The Day: In A

World Where Challenges And Hardships Are Ever-present, The Power Of Empathy And Unity Cannot Be Overstated. By Coming Together As A Community, We Can Create A Supportive Environment Where Everyone Can Thrive. Whether It's Through Providing Resources, Offering A Helping Hand, Or Simply Listening To Someone's Story, Each Act Of Kindness Contributes To A Brighter

Future For All.





Act Now To Make A Difference Together: Overdoses, Addiction, And Mental Health Challenges Are Pressing Issues That Affect Our Community Every Day. It's Time For Us To Come Together And Act. By Collaborating As A Community, We Can Provide The Support, Resources, And Care That Individuals Need To Overcome These Challenges And Lead Healthier, Happier Lives. Join Us In Our Mission To Combat Overdoses, Support Those Struggling With Addiction, And Promote Mental Health Awareness. Whether Through Volunteering, Attending Training Sessions, Spreading Awareness, Or Simply Offering A Listening Ear, Every Effort Counts. Together, We Can Create A Supportive Environment Where Everyone Can Thrive.

Let's Work Hand In Hand To Build A Stronger, More Resilient Community. Your Involvement Is Crucial In Making A Lasting Impact. Reach Out Today And Be A Part Of The Change. Together, We Can Save Lives And Empower Our Community.

Empower Our Community With Your Support

Urgent Appeal For Donations To The Teech Foundation: Help Us Continue Our Mission
While Our Funding Is Secure For The Fiscal Year 2026, We Still Require Additional Support To Sustain
Our Operations And Expand Our Reach. We Are Making An Urgent Appeal To Our Community For
Donations To Ensure The Continuation Of Our Vital Services. Your Generous Contributions Will
Enable Us To Provide Essential Support And Resources To Those In Need, Allowing Us To Continue
Our Mission Of Making A Positive Impact On The Lives Of Countless Individuals.

Every Donation, Regardless Of Size, Plays A Crucial Role In Helping Us Maintain Our Programs, Offer Critical Assistance, And Bring Hope To Those Who Rely On Our Services. Your Support Will Directly Impact Our Ability To Deliver High-quality Services, Develop New Initiatives, And Respond To Emerging Needs Within Our Community. Together, We Can Make A Significant Difference And Build A Stronger, More Compassionate Community. Your Support Is Not Only Appreciated But Essential For The Continuation Of Our Work. By Contributing To Our Cause, You Are Investing In The Well-being Of Our Community And Helping To Create A Brighter Future For All. We Invite You To Visit Our Website To Make A Donation (Www.teechfoundationl.org) Or Use Zelle To Send Your Contribution [Drkwhite@teechfoundation.net] Or Mail Your Donation To Teech At 1750 W. 103rd St, Chicago, Illinois 60643. Your Generosity Will Enable Us To Continue Our Mission And Make A Lasting Impact On The Lives Of Those We Serve. Thank You For Standing With Us And For Your Unwavering Support. Together, We Can Achieve Great Things And Ensure That Our Community Thrives.

Thank You For Your Continued Support

As We Move Forward, We Want To Express Our Heartfelt Gratitude For Your Unwavering Support. Your Involvement Is Not Just Appreciated; It Is Essential To Our Mission. Together, We Are Creating Lasting Change And Empowering The Next Generation. Let's Continue To Join Forces To Build Resilient Communities Where Everyone Can Thrive. Thank You For Being An Integral Part Of Our Journey.

Resources

COOLING CENTERS 🎩



COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTERS

COOLING CENTER HOURS: 9 A.M.- 5 P.M. (Monday-Friday)

Englewood Center 1140 W. 79th St.

North Area Center 845 W. Wilson Ave.

*Garfield Center 10 S. Kedzie Ave.

South Chicago Center 8650 S. Commercial Ave. King Center 4314 S. Cottage Grove

Trina Davila Center 4312 W. North Ave.

SENIOR CENTERS

COOLING CENTER HOURS: 8:30 A.M.- 4:30 P.M. (Monday-Friday)

Central West Center 2102 W. Ogden Ave.

Renaissance Court 78 E. Washington 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Northeast Senior Center 2019 W. Lawrence Ave.

Southeast Senior Center 1767 E. 79th St.

Northwest Senior Center 3100 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Southwest Center 6117 S. Kedzie Ave.

ALTERNATE LOCATIONS

Chicago Parks & Libraries also serve as cooling centers during extreme heat.

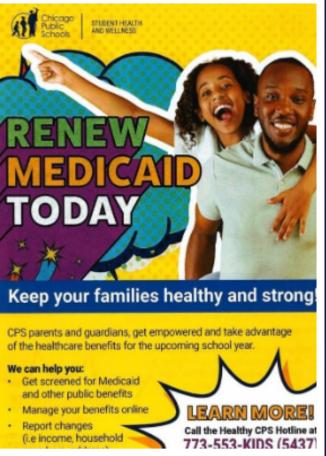
Check in with your local park, library or police station for cooling center locations & hours.

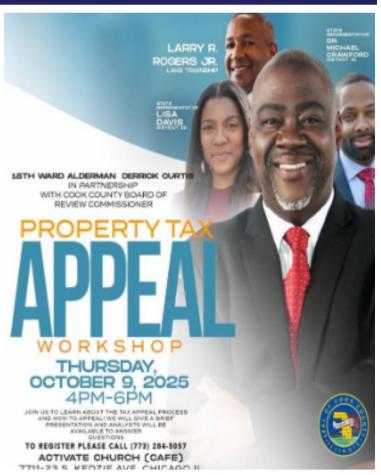
VISIT 311.CHICAGO.GOV OR CALL 3-1-1 FOR THE MOST CURRENT INFORMATION ON CITY COOLING CENTERS



*The Garfield Center is available 24/7 to connect residents to









Cook County Health Birthday Health Screening Program for Prostate and Breast Cancer

Call to Schedule: 312-864-4289

For your birthday, give yourself the gift of health!

Cook County Health is proud to offer free prostate cancer and free breast cancer screens to eligible Cook County residents during the month of their birthday.

How it works:

Residents are encouraged to call ahead to schedule an appointment for the screening to ensure availability during their birthday month.

- Uninsured patients will receive the screening free of charge.
- . Insured residents will have their screenings billed to their insurance plan.

Who is etigible:

All residents of Cook County are eligible for screening, regardless of immigration status

Breast Cancer Screening for Women

- Age: 46-74
- Must not have had a mammogram in the past two years
- Includes a healthcare provider consultation, assessment, and necessary follow-up

Prostate Cancer Screening for Men

- Age: 45-69
- Must not have had a prostate screening test within the past two years
- Includes a healthcare provider consultation, assessment, and necessary follow-up

Some private insurance plans may require a co-pay or co-insurance to be collected. Making broable paying your bild? Cook County Houth can help. Call 869-229-2817.

Why it is important to be screened:

Cancer screenings are important because they help find cancer early, before it causes serious problems. When cancer is found early, it is easier to treat and the chances of getting better are higher. Screenings can find cancer even if a person doesn't feet sick.

Prioritize your health on your birthday and schedule your appointment today!



cookcountyhealth.org

YOU DON'T NEED A REAL ID IF:

- You have a valid U.S. passport
- You are under the age of 18

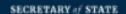
A REAL ID IS NOT REQUIRED TO:







If you plan to fly after May 7°, and don't have a passport, use our interactive checklist and make an appointment at realid.ilsos.gov





ALEXI GIANNOULIAS