

Oak Park Department of Public Health



. p r e v e n t .



. p r o m o t e .



. p r o t e c t .

2007 Annual Report

Oak Park Department of Public Health

2007 Annual Report

Mission Statement


*The Oak Park Department of Public Health
will assure the health of all community members
by preventing disease, injury and disability,
and by promoting a healthy environment.*

Table of Contents

Message from the Interim Health Director.....3

 Board of Health.....4

Collaborations & Partnerships.....5

 Mapping a Healthier Oak Park.....6


Essential Public Health Services.....8

Oak Park Department of Public Health.....10

 Community Health Services Division.....10

Emergency Preparedness Division.....12

Environmental Health Services Division.....13

 Health Information Services Division.....14

Community Contributions to Public Health.....15

 Financial Statement.....16

■ Message from the Interim Health Director

The *2007 Annual Report of the Oak Park Department of Public Health* provides a snapshot of the many ways in which the Department touches the lives of Oak Park residents each and every day.

Although public health programs and activities may not often be visible, public health staff can frequently be found working behind the scenes to promote health and prevent disease. This is accomplished through a variety of activities including health education, linking uninsured residents to needed health services, providing STD and HIV screening and treatment, inspecting restaurants, day care centers and long-term care facilities and carrying out rodent control.

Department staff also provides leadership and training in emergency preparedness to Village staff, community agencies and the local Medical Reserve Corps. In addition, the department's Animal Control staff continues to work with our partner, the Animal Care League, in assuring that all abandoned and stray animals in the Village receive the most humane care and treatment possible until they are able to be reunited with their owner or find a new home.

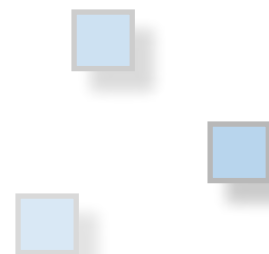
As the Department of Public Health moves towards its 60th anniversary as an Illinois certified local health department in 2008, priority issues include those identified in the department's five year strategic plan *Mapping a Healthier Oak Park* (more on pg.6).

Whether performing routine tasks to ensure the health and safety of both residents and visitors, or partnering with others in the Village to address greater public health challenges, the department continues to contribute to the rich fabric and quality of life of Oak Park as it has for almost 60 years.

Sincerely,



Margaret Provost-Fyfe, RN, MPH



■ Oak Park Board of Health

The Board of Health is an advisory body to the Director of the Department of Public Health and the Board of Trustees, and as such has the authority to make recommendations as to such rules, regulations and orders as it may deem necessary for the preservation and improvement of public health and for the prevention and/or suppression of disease. Oak Park Village Code, 20-2-3.

- Janet Holden, PhD, Chair
- Frank Vozak III
- Barbara Belenke
- Brian Crawford
- Deno Andrews
- Phillip DeChristopher
- Nina Terebessy (Youth Member)



“Public health reaches into the community in so many ways. I appreciate being part of something that is so vital to making Oak Park a healthy, vibrant community.”

- **Brian Crawford**, Board of Health Member

■ Collaborations & Partnerships

Oak Park's local public health system is a network of individuals, institutions, organizations and agencies that contribute to the collective health of Oak Park community members. The Department of Public Health supports community-based collaborative initiatives to improve overall health. This approach ensures that the community remains aware of our programs and services, and that members of the system practice efficient use of resources. The Department of Public Health is only one member of the local public health system.



“When the health department shares costs, expertise and other resources with local partner organizations, we are able to provide better public health services as well as demonstrate efficient use of municipal dollars.”

- Jacob Nelson
Health Information Coordinator

■ Mapping a Healthier Oak Park

As a certified local health department in Illinois, the Department of Public Health is required to conduct and report on outcomes of a community health needs assessment every five years. In the most recent report (completed in 2006) titled *Mapping a Healthier Oak Park*, the community identified three priority issues that impact the residents of Oak Park, and which were to be addressed during the next five years. In 2007, the following activities were conducted.

OBESITY & RELATED ILLNESSES

Obesity has quickly become the second leading cause of preventable death in the United States and is expected to pass the mortality rates of smoking within this lifetime. If current trends continue, the nation's younger generation may be the first in American history to live shorter and less healthy lives than their parents. In 2007, the Department of Public Health began to address obesity and related illnesses in the following ways:

- Initiated discussions with the school district and community members around the development of a BMI report card program for Oak Park youth to inform policy and program development and to provide a way to measure changes in local rates of overweight and obesity among young people.
- Participated on regional and local coalitions formed to develop innovative strategies to improve nutrition and enhance exercise among children and families.
- Organized and sponsored events to promote physical activity in youth and adults including the annual Health & Hoops; Jump Kid Jump (in collaboration with the SEOPCO); Heart Smart for Women (in collaboration with Rush Oak Park Hospital and with funding from the Illinois Department of Public Health).



HEALTH FACT

Overweight and obese individuals are at increased risk for many diseases and health conditions, including type 2 diabetes, heart disease and some cancers.

- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

RESPONSIBLE SEXUAL BEHAVIOR

Unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), including infection with the human immunodeficiency virus that causes AIDS, can result from unprotected sexual behaviors. The Department of Public Health addressed this issue in a number of ways, including the following.



- Provided confidential STD and HIV counseling, testing and treatment to 237 individuals in partnership with PCC Community Wellness Center and with funding from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Center for Minority Health and the Cook County Department of Public Health HIV Prevention Program.
- Performed regular outreach visits to identify and educate individuals at greatest risk of transmitting STDs and HIV; developed targeted messages in multiple formats including newsletters, websites and print media.
- Provided Oak Park and River Forest High School students with weekly access to a public health nurse as a resource for students with concerns or questions about responsible sexual behavior and STDs.
- Developed and facilitated – Teen Aware – a 10-week classroom-based program for adolescents at two non-public schools in Oak Park. The program was supported through a grant from the Illinois Department of Human Services.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Alcohol and illicit drug use are associated with many of this country's most serious problems, including child and spousal abuse, sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV), teen pregnancy, poor school performance, motor vehicle crashes, escalation of health care costs, low worker productivity and homelessness.



The Department of Public Health designed the following initiatives to address the substance abuse issue in Oak Park.

- Offered nicotine replacement patches to 34 individuals to assist with smoking cessation under a grant from the IDPH and in cooperation with a local pharmacy.
- Provided a six-week smoking cessation course to 26 residents (at no charge) with funding from the IDPH.
- Provided the Education to Nullify Use by First-timers (ENUF) program (substance abuse prevention education) in partnership with the Volunteer Center and with funding from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

Essential Public Health Services

The Core Public Health Functions Steering Committee developed the framework for the *Essential Services* in 1994. This steering committee included representatives from US Public Health Service agencies and other major public health organizations. The Essential Services provide a working definition of public health and a guiding framework for the responsibilities of local public health systems. The following are ways the Department strived to meet the 10 essential services in 2007.

(1) Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems.

Used national, state and local data to inform public health planning, to evaluate programs and to ensure data-driven public health practice.

(2) Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.

Investigated and resolved three community disease outbreaks and provided relevant prevention education and training to those affected.

(3) Inform, educate and empower people about health issues.

Provided four programs on smoking cessation, five on heart health and two on chronic disease management to Oak Park residents.

(4) Mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems.

Worked with more than 25 local community organizations to address substance abuse among Oak Park residents.

(5) Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.

Expanded community-based emergency preparedness plans for mass prophylaxis.

HEALTH FACT

Since 1900, the average lifespan of persons in the United States has lengthened by greater than 30 years; 25 years of this gain are attributable to advances in public health.

- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

(6) Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.

In accordance with village code, public health nurses and sanitarians regularly inspect food establishments, childcare facilities and long-term care facilities to enforce state and local health codes.

(7) Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.

Provided residents with STD and HIV counseling, testing and treatment; with immunizations and low-cost flu shots; and with enrollment services for the Illinois All Kids Health Insurance Program and the Suburban Cook County Access to Care Program.

(8) Assure competent public and personal health care workforce.

Health department staff both presented (8) and participated (27) in relevant conferences, in-services and trainings to share best practices and to remain abreast of current trends in public health practice.

(9) Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.

Developed program evaluation tools for all evidence based public health programs and services to ensure that our efforts remain data-driven.

(10) Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

Staff provided research support and guidance to a community-based coalition formed to identify strategies to lower the prevalence of obesity among Oak Park residents.



“I have found that preventive care offered to the community as compared to the individual has a much greater overall impact.”

- Elizabeth Kochevar RN, BSN
Public Health Nurse

Oak Park Department of Public Health

Georgeen Polyak, PhD, Director of Public Health (Retired, May 2007)
Margaret Provost Fyfe, RN, MPH, Interim Director of Public Health
Lisha Fambro, BA, Administrative Assistant

Community Health Services Division

Margaret Provost Fyfe, RN, MPH, Community Health Services Supervisor
Wanda McDonald, RN, MHA, Clinical Services Coordinator
Joyce Brown, Public Health Programs Assistant
Catherine Amato, RN, M.Ed., Family Case Manager/Public Health Nurse
Elisabeth Kochevar, RN, BSN, Public Health Nurse
Zoe Greco, RN, Public Health Nurse (part-time)
Pat Heil, RN, Public Health Nurse (part-time)
Fred Blakey, MA, HIV Outreach Worker

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

The Community Health Services staff of public health nurses and outreach workers performs a variety of functions including communicable disease control; code enforcement in child care and long-term care centers; screenings and home visiting. Additionally, residents are provided with STD and HIV screening and treatment; and other health services through formal agreements and linkages with local providers.

SERVICE STATISTICS

Communicable Disease Control

Communicable Disease Outbreaks Investigated and Resolved.....	3
Reportable Infectious Diseases reported (cases).....	102
Health Alerts Sent to Physicians.....	11

Reportable Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Syphilis.....	8
Gonorrhea.....	54
Chlamydia.....	154
New Cases of HIV.....	14
New Cases of AIDS.....	11

STD/HIV Counseling and Testing Services
 Persons Counseled and Tested for HIV/STD.....237

HIV/AIDS Outreach
 Community-Based Visits.....31
 Persons Reached.....445

Immunization Clinics
 Influenza and Pneumococcal Immunizations.....1,231
 Childhood Immunizations.....69

Family Case Management
 Women and Infants Served.....261

Childhood Health/School Health
 Children Screened for Hearing.....1,340
 Children Screened for Vision.....1,184
 Childhood Lead Poisoning (Home Visits).....13

Older Adult Health
 Geriatric Home Visits.....12

Institutional Health Inspections
 Child Day Care Centers inspections.....50
 Adult Day Care Centers inspections.....1
 Long Term Care Facility inspections.....10

Know Your Numbers
(Heart Disease Risk Factor Screening)
 Persons Screened.....164

Stanford University Chronic Disease Self Management Program
 Course Participants.....10

Dental Sealants
 Children Served.....29



“Having been raised in Oak Park, I feel fortunate to enjoy a profession that gives me an opportunity to give back to the people in my community.”

- Catherine Amato, RN, M.Ed.
 Family Case Manager and
 Public Health Nurse

Emergency Preparedness Division

Christopher Shields, BS, EMT- P,
 Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager
 Sara Anderson, MPH, AmeriCorps Member

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

The Emergency Preparedness Division operates in collaboration with the Departments of Fire and Police; with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and IDPH to plan for, evaluate and respond to emergency situations that may impact the community. The Emergency Preparedness Division provides leadership to the local Medical Reserve Corps Unit, which is one of over 800 units operating nationwide with support from the United States Surgeon General.

SERVICE STATISTICS

Emergency Response Trainings

Village Staff Trained (Incident Command).....	486
Persons Trained (Strategic National Stockpile).....	186

Strategic National Stockpile Dispensing Exercises

West Suburban College of Nursing.....	2
VOP Fire Department.....	3
VOP Village Hall.....	1
PCC Wellness Center.....	1
Rush University Medical Center.....	1

Medical Reserve Corps

Trained Volunteers.....	78
-------------------------	----

Emergency Response Policies and Procedures

Volunteer Utilization Plan.....	1
Strategic National Stockpile Dispensing Plan.....	1
Isolation and Quarantine Plan.....	1
Pandemic Influenza Plan.....	1
Mass Shelters Secured.....	18
Households Enrolled in Emergency Notification System.....	21,000

Educational Material Distribution

Emergency Preparedness Pocket Guides.....	2,050
Homeland Security Information Packets.....	1,550



“In the event of an actual community emergency or disaster we do not need fear and confusion -- we need residents to be prepared; first at home and then to help others.”

- Christopher Shields
 Emergency Preparedness & Response Manager

Environmental Health Services Division

Michael Charley, MS, Environmental Health Services Supervisor

Kathy Berens-Haas, LEHP, Environmental Health Inspector

Cameron Hendricks, LEHP, Environmental Health Inspector

Jason Pounds, Animal Control Officer

Ramiro Leon, Animal Control Officer

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

The Divisions of Environmental Health and Animal Control protect community health through a variety of programs that work to promote healthy environmental conditions and to reduce the threat of communicable disease. The division of Environmental Health also provides direction and support to the Oak Park Farmers' Market.

SERVICE STATISTICS

Food Safety

Routine Food Protection Inspections.....	488
Re-Inspections.....	480
Citations Issued.....	200
Complaint Investigations.....	99
Temporary Food Establishment Inspections....	49
Food-borne Illness Inspections.....	11
Facility Pre-Operation Inspections.....	46

Complaint Investigations

Noise.....	9
Odors/Vapors/Fumes.....	6
Nuisance Bird.....	2
Other.....	47

Rodent Control Investigations

Reported Rat Sightings.....	362
Rat Presence Confirmed/Baited.....	149

General Sanitation

Public Swimming Pool Inspections.....	15
Tanning Facility Inspections.....	1
Child Care Facility Inspections.....	23

West Nile Disease Prevention Program

Homes Provided with Educational Materials.....	4,733
Homes Surveyed for Mosquito Breeding Sources...4,733	
Home Identified with Mosquito Breeding Sources.....	427
West Nile Disease Community Presentations.....	7

Animal Control Services

Domestic Animals Impounded.....	291
Domestic Animals Returned to Owners.....	40
Animals with Positive Rabies Test.....	0
Animal Care Facility Inspections.....	4



“The most rewarding part of my job is seeing a smile on the face of someone when I return a lost dog to its family.”

- Jason Pounds
Oak Park Animal Control Officer

Health Information Services Division

Ranjana Das, MPH, Health Information Coordinator (Resigned May 2007)

Jacob Nelson, MPH, MPP, Health Information Coordinator

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

The Health Information Services Division provides a wealth of services including public health education, program evaluation, grant preparation and management, health statistics, public health policy support, and health-focused research – all of which ensure that the Department of Public Health remains on the cutting edge of public health practice, and that resources are used effectively and efficiently.



SERVICE STATISTICS

Smoking Cessation Program

Break the Habit Participants.....	34
Freedom from Smoking (FFS) Classes.....	4
FFS Program Participants Reached.....	26

Heart Disease Prevention Program

Heart Smart for Women (HSW) Classes.....	4
HSW Program Participants Reached.....	114

Adolescent Health Program

Education to Nullify Use by First-timers (ENUF) Classes...	12
ENUF Program Participants Reached.....	69
Teen Aware (TA) Classes.....	2
TA Program Participants Reached.....	47
Youth Sport/Physical Activity Programs.....	2
Sports Program Participants Reached.....	126
High School Drop-In Counseling (Contacts).....	29

Development Program

Grant Requests Prepared and Submitted.....	18
Grant Funds Received.....	\$420,474

“I have the unique opportunity to question, challenge and evaluate the strategies we use to protect the public’s health. My work is rewarding because it changes lives in a positive way.”

- Jacob Nelson
Health Information
Coordinator

Community Contributions to Public Health

2007 JOHNSON'S RESTAURANT AWARD

The Johnson's Restaurant Award is presented annually to Oak Park restaurants that excel in food service sanitation. Named in memory of Oak Park's first lunch room, the award is part of an incentive program designed to encourage restaurants to consistently meet or exceed sanitation requirements. To be eligible for the award, restaurants must earn a minimum 85 percent average sanitation inspection score over the most recent two year period. In 2007, the award went to the following restaurants:

CHIPOTLE MEXICAN GRILL

MARION STREET GRILLE

MOVABLE GOURMET

THE PERFECT DINNER

JAVA OASIS

BEN & JERRY'S

LUO'S PEKING HOUSE

DENNYS RESTAURANT

ROCK L'S

SHEENA'S HEALTHY SOUL FOOD

STARBUCK'S COFFEE (1018 LAKE ST.)

2007 DR. WILLIAM FITZSIMMONS AWARD

This award is named in honor of an outstanding physician and selfless humanitarian who volunteered many years of service to the Oak Park Health Department and to the residents of this community – Dr. William Fitzsimmons. In recognition of National Public Health Week, the Oak Park Department of Public Health invited nominations of individuals and organizations in the community to be honored for their exceptional contributions to the health of the Oak Park community during the year. In 2007, the award went to the following recipients:

JENNIFER BOX (Village Finance Department) for her leadership of the Village of Oak Park Employee Wellness Team;

THE COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM FOR HEALTHIER KIDS (c/o Scott Gaalaas) for the group's leadership of childhood obesity prevention efforts;

MARGO BRISTOW AND RYAN MULVANEY (OPRF High School) for their leadership of the OPRF-Trinity Snowball Program which provides a safe environment for young people to enhance leadership skills and to promote positive decision making;

GARY CUNEEN (Seven Generations Ahead) for his leadership to build a culture of ecological sustainability and community wellness;

KARI FATTA (Rush Oak Park Hospital) for her partnership with the health department to provide public health programs and services to Village residents;

DR. MARY EISENLOHR (Village resident) for her volunteerism to provide free veterinary care to animals in Oak Park;

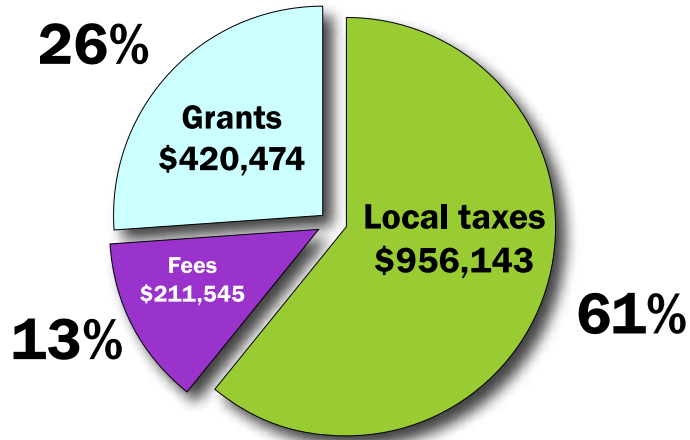
BOBBI NANCE (Park District of Oak Park) for her efforts to provide safe and constructive activities for Oak Park adolescents; and

JANET HOLDEN (Village resident) for her leadership of the Oak Park Board of Health over the last several years.

2007 Financial Statement

REVENUE

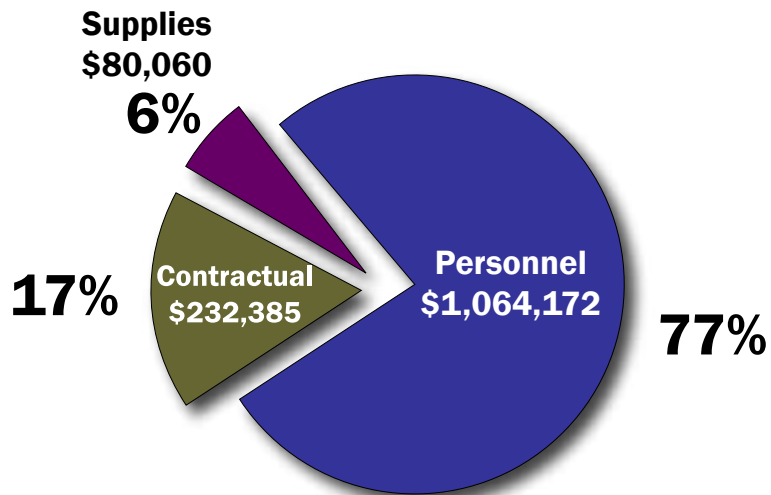
2 0 0 7



Total = \$1,588,162

EXPENSES

2 0 0 7



Total = \$1,376,617



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

*Department of Public Health
123 Madison Street
Oak Park, IL 60302
708.358.5480
health@oak-park.us
www.oak-park.us/health*