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Monday, Nov 26, 2012

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Ambulatory and Community Health Network of Cook County

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627 S. Wood Ave.
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Dispersed throughout Cook County, the Ambulatory and Community Health Network (ACHN) coordinates primary and specialty outpatient care in community, school-based, and hospital outpatient settings. There are currently 30 outpatient sites, and the Network continues to expand in coordination with the Bureau of Health Services' strategic plan to increase access to public health services.

In the past two years, eleven facilities were opened or renovated: the CORE Center, Cook County Westside Health Center, Cottage Grove (Ford Heights) Health Center, Logan Square Health Center, Maywood Health Center, Morton East High School Health Center, Near South Health Center, Robbins Health Center, and clinics in the Hayes Center, DuSable High School, and Beethoven Elementary School. These sites represent a combination of new clinics, joint ventures with other providers, and the expansion of existing Cook County Department of Public Health facilities to provide comprehensive primary care.

Over the past few years, the Network has seen a steady increase in outpatient activity, averaging more than 60,000 outpatient visits a month. Since 1994, total outpatient visits have soared from 590,000 to approximately 750,000 in 1999. Depending on the size of the clinic, visits number from: 200-300 a month at schools; 3,000 a month at the Prieto Clinic in Little Village; and 35,000 a month at the Fantus Clinic. This growth in utilization has been fueled by the expansion of clinics, from just eight in the early 90's.

For the Cook County Bureau of Health Services, the Ambulatory and Community Health Network is the front line in efforts to prevent, diagnose and monitor disease, illness, and mental health. The most effective early intervention, ongoing prevention, and health education efforts occur at the outpatient level. In turn, decentralized outpatient care is more likely to result in increased check-ups, early detection, treatment, patient compliance, and prevention education due to the increased convenience of care for a patient and proximity to the home setting.

Medical necessity and needs drives the decision of where the Network locates a new neighborhood clinic. Wherever possible the Network works collaboratively with partners based in the community. Two additional clinics, in association with the Resurrection Project in Pilsen and the West Side Partnership in Austin, will open this year. These sites are being established at the request of grassroots organizations that identified a gap in services.

The Network emphasizes primary and preventive care for persons of all ages: from infants to senior citizens. This includes new programs like the Early Childhood Diagnostic Centers recently opened at the Westside and Soughside Health Centers. The Diagnostic Centers provide screenings, evaluation and monitoring for children with special developmental requirements. Recognizing the unique needs of adolescents, the Network provides medical, health education, and prevention care to students at several Chicago elementary and high schools. Indeed, the Network is the largest provider of adolescent healthcare in Chicago.

In order to address specific community priorities, the Network created and oversees centers of excellence in community health. Consistent with Bureau objectives, these include initiatives to control and reduce asthma, lead poisoning, violence, cancer, and childhood diseases. All the centers of excellence focus on early detection and prevention.

Many outpatients have needs that require special evaluation and treatment. The tradition of responding to outpatients with complex medical needs began many years ago in the bustling Fantus Clinic, the specialty hub for the Ambulatory and Community Health Network located next to Cook County Hospital. With more than 85 specialty clinics over four floors, Fantus hosts more than 400,000 patient visits a year. In an attempt to increase access, specialized outpatient services are now also being offered at the John Sengstacke Professional Building, adjacent to Provident Hospital, and Oak Forest Hospital.

Looking to prevention, the Network sponsors creative community health initiatives such as the Woodlawn Health Center's "Project Brotherhood," which focuses on the special health issues facing African American men. Project Brotherhood, a black men's clinic at the Woodlawn Health Center provides comprehensive sensitive and confidential environment.

The Ambulatory and Community Health Network continues to develop an efficient system of transferring patients from neighborhood sites to specialists and hospital care, when medically appropriate, and then assisting them in returning to their communities for ongoing care. In this respect, the Network plays a vital gatekeeper role in caring for Cook County

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Department of Medicine
John Stroger Hospital
1900 W. Polk St.
Chicago, IL 60612

Phone: (312) 864-6000

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Bureau of Health Services clients, facilitating their medical needs throughout the entire continuum of care.

Clinic Transfer Assistance

The Cook County Bureau of Health Services closed eight of the Ambulatory and Community Health Network clinics on April 7, 2007.

Patients may elect to transfer their care and their medical records to another Ambulatory site. For additional information regarding the closings, records transfer or finding new clinics, call (312) 864-0201.

Ambulatory Clinic Finder

(312) 864-6420

Primary Care Provider Search - a phone-based ambulatory clinic locator system to assist in finding a Cook County primary care clinic nearest you based on your zip code. Please be prepared to write down the information from this system.

Languages: English, Spanish, Polish.

Ambulatory and Community Health Network centers:

Clinic Name	Address	City	Zip	Phone	Fax
Fantus Health Center	621 S. Winchester Ave	Chicago	60612	312-864-6221	312-864-9383
CORE Center	2020 W. Harrison	Chicago	60612	312-572-4500	312-572-4873
Austin Health Center of Cook County	4800 W. Chicago Avenue	Chicago	60651	773-826-9600	773-826-9601
Cicero Health Center	5912 W. Cermak	Cicero	60804	708-783-9800	708-783-9810
Cook County/Englewood Health Center	1135 W. 69th Street	Chicago	60621	773-483-5011	
Cottage Grove Medical Center	1645 Cottage Grove	Ford Heights	60411	708-753-5800	
Hayes/Center for Successful Child Development	CLOSED as of April 7, 2007. Please refer to Clinic Transfer Assistance information above.				
Logan Square Health Center	2840 W. Fullerton	Chicago	60647	773-395-7400	773-395-9608
Near South Health Center	3525 S. Michigan Ave.	Chicago	60653	312-945-4010	312-945-4088
Northside Health Center of Cook County (Thorek)	CLOSED as of March 2007. Please refer to Clinic Transfer Assistance information above.				
Oak Forest Specialty Health Center of Cook County	15900 S. Cicero	Oak Forest	60452	708-633-2555	708-687-8404
Robbins Health Center of Cook County	13450 S. Kedzie	Robbins	60472	708-293-8100	
John H. Sengstacke Health Center of Cook County	450 E. 51 st Street	Chicago	60615	312-572-2900	
Specialty Care Center	1901 W. Harrison Street	Chicago	60612	312-864-7589	312-864-7025
Vista Health Center of Cook County	1585 N. Rand Road	Palatine	60067	847-934-7969	847-934-9243
Westside Health Center of Cook County	CLOSED as of April 7, 2007. Please refer to Clinic Transfer Assistance information above.				
Woodlawn Health Center of Cook County	6337 S. Woodlawn	Chicago	60637	773-753-5500	773-753-5990
Woody Winston Health Center of Cook County	650 E. Phoenix Cntr Dr	Phoenix	60452	708-225-9900	708-225-9997

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School Based Health Centers					
PLEASE NOTE: Some of the School Based Centers listed below closed as of April 7, 2007. Please refer to the Clinic Transfer Assistance information listed above.					
The following are school based health centers in the network. These centers are available on a walk-in basis for the children at these schools only. Other children should be taken to the nearest area Community Health Center (listed above).					
Austin/PATH Adolescent Health Center of Cook County		CLOSED as of April 7, 2007. Please refer to Clinic Transfer Assistance information above.			
Beethoven Child Health Center of Cook County		CLOSED as of April 7, 2007. Please refer to Clinic Transfer Assistance information above.			
Bond Health Child Health Center of Cook County		CLOSED as of April 7, 2007. Please refer to Clinic Transfer Assistance information above.			
DuSable Adolescent Health Center of Cook County		CLOSED as of April 7, 2007. Please refer to Clinic Transfer Assistance information above.			
Morton East Adolescent Health Center of Cook County		2423 S. Austin Boulevard	Cicero	60804	

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All information is not a substitute for medical advice or treatment for specific medical conditions.

If you have any health-care related questions or suspect you have a health problem, you should consult your health-care provider.