

Oct. 11, 2007

News media calls to David Hass at (630) 682-7979, ext. 7374.

## **DuPage County Board of Health hears balanced FY08 budget; Reliance on county funds cut by millions from 51% to 38% since 2004**

*Board approves lease agreement for FQHC expansion in Addison*

The DuPage County Board of Health heard the first reading of the FY08 budget for the DuPage County Health Department at the board's Oct. 11 meeting. The Health Department has dramatically reduced its reliance on county funding, with the exception of its property tax levy, while increasing program revenue.

Spending matches revenue in the balanced FY08 budget. The Board of Health will vote on the budget during its Nov. 8 meeting.

The board heard an overview of the FY08 budget and board members received more details in their budget books. Health Department program revenue has increased from 49 percent to 62 percent in the past four years, while reliance on county funds has been cut from 51 percent to 38 percent.

Spending for FY08 has been reduced by \$740,000. The spending reduction was accomplished while more efficiently providing services to DuPage County residents. Additionally, costs have been cut and program revenue has increased. The FY08 budget is \$47.5 million compared to \$48.2 million in FY07.

Michael Kiep, Business Operations Services Director, said, "The health department has increased program revenue, decreased expenses and implemented operational changes to eliminate reliance on DuPage County funding sources, other than the property tax levy."

### **FQHC expansion in Addison/Bensenville area**

The Board of Health also approved leasing space in the health department's Addison Public Health Center for an expansion of the Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers, which is considered a vital component of the DuPage Healthcare Safety Net Plan. Access Community Healthcare Network received federal approval earlier this year to operate an FQHC in the Addison/Bensenville area.

This joint site partnership allows the Health Department and Access Community Healthcare Network to provide DuPage County residents the opportunity to obtain affordable healthcare in one location.

Access Community Healthcare secured a \$950,000 Community Development Block Grant from DuPage County for capital improvements related to its Addison expansion. This funding will be used to renovate the Addison Public Health Center.

*"We promote health, prevent illness and provide quality service"*