Mayors and Managers Meeting Notes from 7.27.2020


DuPage County Representatives Participants: Sheryl Markay, Chief Policy & Program Officer

DuPage County Health Department Participants: Sam Tornatore, Board of Health President, Karen Ayala, Executive Director; Rashmi Chugh, Medical Officer; Dennis Brennan, Legislative Manager; Chris Hoff, Director of Community Health Resources; Penny Chanez, Executive Asst.

Purpose of the call today with Mayors and Managers is to address updated case counts, Community and business updates and guidance. DuPage County Health Department Deputy Incident Commander, Chris Hoff facilitated the meeting.

Executive Director, Karen Ayala welcomed everyone and shared the following:

- Chairman Cronin expressed his regrets for not being able to participate on today’s call.
- Monitoring local/state/national cases very closely, attempting to both learn lessons on how to best mitigate and avoid missteps when continuing to address COVID-19.

COVID-19 UPDATE ON ILLINOIS AND DUPAGE COUNTY CASES

The Health Department’s Medical Officer, Dr. Chugh provided the following case updates and remarks.

Case Counts continues to rise nationally.

- Nationally
  - confirmed cases: 4,238,500
  - deaths: 146,968

- State of Illinois
  - confirmed cases: 171,424
  - deaths: 7,398
  - Recovery rate of 95%

- DuPage County
  - confirmed cases: 10,880
  - deaths: 506
  - Recovery rate of 94%
Data/DuPage County Health Department COVID-19 Dashboard Review

- Average age of confirmed cases from
  - March was 46 years of age
  - Last 2 weeks is 37 years of age
- Average age of hospitalization cases from
  - March was 61 years of age.
  - Last two weeks is 52 years of age
- Average age of deaths from
  - March was 80 years of age
  - Last two weeks was 76 years of age

Dr. Chugh shared that there is distribution case activity across all age groups, with a significant increase in younger populations.

- Before July 1:
  - 10-19 years of age - 5% of all cases
  - 20-29 years of age – 16% of all cases
- After July 1:
  - 10-19 years of age -16% of all cases
  - 20-29 years of age -25% of all cases

Dr. Chugh and Mr. Hoff provided the following updates:

- Continuing to receive reports of severe illness in multiple pediatric cases.
- Last 14 day-increases are pointing to increased community transmission, and likely case activity is underreported.
- Current positivity rates for DuPage County is hovering under 5%.
- Death numbers continue to remain low, compared to the highs in April and May.
- Hospitalizations after a brief uptick around July 5th are relatively stable in comparison to the increase in case activity, though recent data may be incomplete due to reporting delays of hospitalizations and deaths.
- There is increased testing but not adequate testing. The County’s testing site at the DuPage County Fairgrounds has experienced a huge response from the public.
- Anyone symptomatic needs diagnostic testing in a timely manner and prompt turnaround time in reporting of results so public health actions may be recommended and implemented to help reduce ongoing transmission. Commercial labs are experiencing significant delays. Result reporting at the County’s site continues to be much better than seen nationally.
- The practice of public health protocols continues to be the best measures in reducing community spread with a goal to get beyond outbreak activity in segments of the population. DCHD continues to receive multiple reports of outbreak activity in DuPage County and the Health Department has responded to hundreds of outbreaks.
- The Health Department is actively petitioning the Illinois Dept. of Health (IDPH) to support the use of saliva/oral swab tests to use in the Health Dept. testing efforts.
- Director Ayala shared and addressed the concerns regarding the challenges of individuals self-reporting and not recognizing that the symptoms they may be experiencing could be COVID-19.
Director Ayala also shared that contact tracing efforts have met resistance from some individuals.

- Director Ayala emphasized the need for participants on the call to promote the educational efforts of the Health Department.
- Dr. Chugh reviewed recently updated CDC guidelines on isolation for individuals confirmed as positive.
- Dr. Chugh also reviewed how some tests come back unsatisfactory and the factors that may contribute to that outcome.

**Review of State of Illinois Resurgence Plan**

Mr. Hoff revisited the metrics discussed in last week’s call with participant on the State of Illinois’s resurgence plan.

- The following health metrics will be used to determine when the spread of the virus in a region requires additional mitigations:
  - Sustained increase in 7-day rolling average (7 out of 10 days) in the positivity rate
  - **AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**
    - Sustained 7-day increase in hospital admissions for a COVID-19 like illness
    - Reduction in hospital capacity threatening surge capabilities (ICU capacity or medical/surgical beds under 20%)
  - **OR**
    - Three consecutive days averaging greater than or equal to 8% positivity rate

- The State’s resurgence plan can be found on the State website: [http://dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics](http://dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics)
- The Health Department continues to monitor any changes occurring in Region 8 and if the metrics trend higher what that could mean for future restrictions.
- Currently 4 regions within the state are in the warning threshold.
- Director Ayala shared that flu vaccinations for the 2020/21 season will begin soon and the importance of encouraging residents to get the flu vaccination.

Participants agreed to continue with weekly meetings.

There was no further discussion. Participants were encouraged to reach out with any other concerns or questions. Director Ayala concluded the call at 10:48AM with no further discussion.