

Media Inquiries:

(630) 221-7374
media@dupagehealth.org

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Karen Ayala, M.P.H.
Executive Director

April 27, 2022
For Immediate Release

DuPage County Ranks Healthiest in Illinois

DuPage County - The DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) is pleased to announce that once again DuPage County has been ranked the healthiest county in Illinois, according to the 2022 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps. The county rankings, produced annually by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, are an easy-to-use snapshot that compares counties within states, demonstrating that where you live influences how well and how long you live.

“I think it’s particularly meaningful, that as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, DuPage County remains the healthiest county in Illinois. That means, together with our DuPage County Health Department, our healthcare system partners and other providers, we lived up to our commitment to put our residents and their health first as we navigated this crisis. Our dedication continues. Now we’ll focus on what we’ve learned, to design and deliver community initiatives that contribute to better health for everyone,” said DuPage County Board Chairman Dan Cronin.

The rankings use more than 30 measures to help communities understand how healthy their residents are today (Health Outcomes) and what will impact their health in the future (Health Factors), which are used to measure the current overall health of each county in all 50 states. While DuPage County has ranked in the top five in both categories for several years, this year the county was ranked Number 1 in both Health Factors and Health Outcomes among the 102 counties in Illinois.

“A first overall ranking for the second consecutive year highlights the priority that DuPage County has placed on health and well-being. We realize the importance of maximizing the health of every resident supports our county’s vibrancy and future success as a community.” said Karen Ayala, Executive Director of DuPage County Health Department. “We will continue our work to further improve the health of our communities, recognizing that not all residents enjoy the same access or outcomes.”

Established in 1945, DuPage County Health Department promotes physical and emotional health; prevents illness injury and disability; protects health from environmental risk factors, and strives to assure the provision of accessible, quality service.



111 N. County Farm Rd., Wheaton, IL 60187

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To see the full 2022 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps report, visit www.countyhealthrankings.org.

The health of our community is due in part to robust county-wide and local-level partnerships that meet the priority health needs of residents. This includes Impact DuPage, a group of organizations, including DCHD, committed to creating a common understanding of community needs, gaps, and priorities that will advance the well-being of the DuPage County community. Impact DuPage's 2022 county-wide assessment identified Mental Health and Substance Use and the Prevention and Management of Serious Illness as the top two strategic issues that must be prioritized and addressed in order to advance the well-being of our community.

The priority areas will also address two cross-cutting issues: Person-Centered Care Delivery and Achieving Equity.

Examples of efforts to address these issues through Impact DuPage include:

- The ongoing efforts of the DuPage County Heroin/Opioid Prevention and Education (HOPE) Taskforce and Prevention Leadership Team, to address substance use and mental health needs of residents; and
- The newly formed Health Equity and Access Response Team (HEART), which works to reduce health disparities through increasing health equity among DuPage County residents; and
- The ongoing efforts of the Behavioral Health Collaborative (BHC) to improve the access and quality of behavioral health services for all DuPage County residents.

For the most up-to-date information on Impact DuPage, please visit www.impactdupage.org.

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-More-



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In addition to county-wide collaborations, there are also many local-level examples of communities achieving better health outcomes. Annually, RWJF recognizes communities in America that are working to create a Culture of Health by demonstrating the advancement of health, opportunity, and equity for all. In 2020-2021, one of DuPage County's municipalities, Addison, Illinois, was one of only ten communities across the nation to be recognized as a 2020-2021 RWJF Culture of Health Prize winner. To read more, visit [Addison, Ill. 2020–2021 RWJF Culture of Health Prize Winner - RWJF](#)

DCHD and our many partners across the county remain committed to the health of its residents and values the information provided by the 2022 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps. By working together at all levels, we can make DuPage County a healthier place for everyone to live, learn, work, and play.

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**STAY SAFE
DUPAGE**

