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DuPage County Board of Health

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Karen Ayala, M.P.H.
Executive Director

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.

March 29, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DuPage County Ranked Among Healthiest in Illinois

DuPage County— The DuPage County Health Department is pleased to announce that DuPage County has once again been recognized as one of the healthiest counties in Illinois. The county rankings, developed by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, are based on quality of life factors such as longevity and overall health status, including physical and mental health.

The two rankings include Health Outcomes (how healthy we are) and Health Factors (how healthy we can be) of the counties in all 50 states. DuPage County has been in the top 5 in both categories for several years, and now sits at No. 1 in Health Factors and No. 5 in Health Outcomes among the 102 counties in Illinois.

“We take pride in consistently ranking among the top five healthy counties in the state,” said Karen Ayala, Executive Director of the Health Department. “The high ranking is the result of the collaborative effort of county-wide initiatives that have been developed to positively affect healthy living in DuPage County.”

DuPage County Board Chairman Dan Cronin said, “DuPage County is home to eight award-winning hospitals. The healthcare sector in DuPage employs more than 69,000 people and we are proud to have some of the top physician groups in the Midwest here in DuPage County. We very consciously work to provide access to care while promoting healthy lifestyles. We welcome the recognition from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and work in collaboration with our partners to maintain the health of our residents every day.”

The rankings are results of strong county-wide partnerships that meet the priority health needs of the County, under Impact DuPage. Those efforts include the DuPage Health Coalition’s work guiding Access to Care priorities; FORWARD’s work to increase healthy lifestyles among residents; the Affordable Housing efforts; as well as ongoing work with the Prevention Leadership Team and the Behavioral Health Collaborative to address mental health and substance abuse needs among residents.

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“There is more to accomplish,” said Ayala. “We will continue to work with our partners to identify the health needs of the residents of DuPage County and strive to offer programs that ensure healthy living.”

The online report includes an interactive map that displays an overview of the county health rankings in Illinois at www.countyhealthrankings.org.

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