



The Chicago Area AIDS Housing Plan 2008–2012

A Place to Call Home

Section II HIV/AIDS in the Chicago EMSA and AIDS Housing Need

A Place to Call Home

“For persons battling HIV/AIDS, a stable place to live may decide the length and quality of life itself. It is nearly impossible for a person on the streets to engage in a needed continuous AIDS treatment regimen when the very basic question of where that person will rest his or her head when darkness comes in just a few hours is unresolved. When danger lurks on the streets, when cold numbs the limbs, when tiredness overwhelms the mind, when fear breaks the spirit, a place to call home would make all the difference.”

Henry Cisneros

*U.S. Secretary of the Department of Housing
and Urban Development*

1993 - 1997

Quote from: “AIDS and Behavior”

Special Edition on AIDS Housing Research – November 2007



A Place to Call Home



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HIV/AIDS IN THE CHICAGO REGION AND AIDS HOUSING NEED

Section II

This section provides a brief overview of the demographic profile of recently reported HIV and AIDS cases in the Chicago Region (Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, McHenry, and Will counties.) According to public health sources, 27,770 living cases of HIV/AIDS were reported in the Chicago Region in 2007. See the full report included in the appendix.

The Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH), the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC), and other stakeholders collaborated to prepare the *Chicago Area AIDS Housing Plan, 2008–2012: A Place to Call Home*. The Plan describes critical issues, recommendations, strategies, and benchmarks to address the housing needs of people with HIV/AIDS in the context of the region’s affordable housing crisis.

HIV/AIDS IN THE CHICAGO REGION TODAY

According to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), there were 27,770 reported people living with HIV/AIDS in the Chicago Region as of September 30, 2007. Approximately 83 percent of all persons living with HIV/AIDS in the State of Illinois reside in the Chicago Region.

Over the past decade, advances in HIV/AIDS prevention, medical care, and treatments have dramatically reduced HIV/AIDS-related mortality and enabled many individuals with HIV/AIDS to live longer, healthier lives. As a result, the HIV-positive population as a whole continues to grow.

TOTAL REPORTED LIVING CASES OF HIV AND AIDS IN 2007

County	People Living with HIV as of 9/30/07*	People Living with AIDS as of 9/30/07*
Cook	13,082**	12,698**
Chicago	11,505	10,702
Suburbs	1,527	1,996
DeKalb	29	23
Du Page	273	333
Grundy	7	7
Kane	238	324
Kendall	8	7
McHenry	36	63
Will	328	314
Total	14,001	13,769

*Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois HIV/AIDS/STD Monthly Surveillance Update, October 2007.

** Total of Chicago and Suburbs

Download the entire report, entitled the *Chicago Area AIDS Housing Plan, 2008-2012: A Place to Call Home*, at the AIDS Foundation of Chicago’s website, aidschicago.org.

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AIDS HOUSING NEED

According to national estimates, 50 percent of persons living with HIV/AIDS are unstably housed or homeless. Based on this estimate, AFC approximates that in 2008 at least 15,000 individuals and households in the Chicago metropolitan area are in need of AIDS housing services. Public health entities in the region have reports for 27,000 persons living with HIV/AIDS, and those numbers do not include the estimated 25 percent of infected individuals who are not yet diagnosed. Therefore, 1,300 units of AIDS housing currently available only meet less than 10 percent of the need.¹

CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS

• CITY OF CHICAGO: AIDS DIAGNOSES AND CHARACTERISTICS 2000–2005²

The 2005 AIDS incidence rate for Chicago was 30.4 per 100,000 population — nearly triple the rate for Illinois as a whole (11.3) and nearly double the national rate (18.1). Notably, the City of Chicago accounted for more than 67 percent of all AIDS cases diagnosed in the Chicago Region.

• DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHICAGO REGION

Non-Hispanic Blacks represented the largest proportion of persons living with HIV or AIDS in the Chicago region, comprising nearly 51 percent of all cases. Additionally, more than 22 percent of persons living with HIV or AIDS in the Chicago Region were female. The largest proportion of living HIV and AIDS cases was attributed to male-to-male sexual contact, followed by injection drug use. However, among new AIDS cases diagnosed in 2005, heterosexual contact surpassed injection drug use as the second-highest known mode of transmission.

• GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF HIV/AIDS IN THE CHICAGO REGION

Approximately 81 percent of individuals with HIV/AIDS in the Chicago Region live in City of Chicago, and 13 percent live in suburban Cook County. The majority of the remaining cases live in DuPage and Kane counties.

Among Chicago's 77 Community Areas, Uptown had the highest number of persons living with HIV or AIDS (803), followed by Lake View (713), Edgewater (581), Austin (489), and Rogers Park (410). Areas with the highest prevalence of HIV/AIDS included Rogers Park, Edgewater, Uptown, and Lake View on the city's North Side; Austin, Loop, Near West Side, Near South Side, West Garfield Park, and East Garfield Park on the city's West Side; and Englewood, West Englewood, South Shore, Fuller Park, Woodlawn, Oakland, Grand Boulevard, and Washington Park on the South Side. (Chicago Department of Public Health, STD/HIV/AIDS Chicago, Winter 2005–2006.)

¹ *A Place to Call Home* calls for appropriate stakeholders to aggressively pursue various and flexible funding sources and housing options to meet this demand. After developing and implementing a more precise annual needs assessment in 2008, CDPH and AFC will coordinate efforts to promote the increase of housing units and subsidies dedicated to those living with the virus.

² Information from Chicago Department of Public Health, STD/HIV/AIDS Chicago, Winter 2006 and HIV/AIDS/STD Surveillance Report, 2004.