OVERVIEW:
Chicago COVID Contact Tracing Corps and Resource Coordination Hub

Revised 8/28/20
Background

While every Chicago community area and zip code has seen multiple cases of COVID-19, the pandemic’s impact has been uneven.

- The rate of infection has been **2.2 times higher among Black Chicagoans** than among White Chicagoans, and the mortality rate 2.6 times higher*

- The rate of infection has been **3.5 times higher among Latinx Chicagoans** than among White Chicagoans, and the mortality rate 2.0 times higher*

COVID-19 shines a spotlight on the longstanding racial inequities in health and economic outcomes across Chicago communities.

*Data source: Chicago Department of Public Health, July 31, 2020
Chicago COVID Contact Tracing Corps

Lead Coordinating Organization

The Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership operates the public workforce system in Chicago and suburban Cook County:

- As the largest workforce development system in the nation, The Partnership has helped place more than 70,000 individuals in employment, collaborated with more than 2,000 employers and administered more than $300 million in federal and philanthropic funds.
- 72 locations providing services to over 140,000 people and 1,000 businesses a year
- Many services target communities with high rates of poverty and individuals facing barriers to employment
Project Overview

The Chicago COVID-19 Contact Tracing and Resource Coordination program will invest in hard-hit communities and work to mitigate community transmission by creating a diverse public health workforce that reflects our City’s residents. In the first year, this initiative will:

- Identify and fund organizations in disadvantaged neighborhoods to hire the City’s community-based Contact Tracing Corps
- Create roughly 600 career opportunities for Black, Latinx, and other Chicagoans disproportionately impacted by COVID-19
- Establish and operate Chicago COVID-19 Resource Coordination Hub
Project Timelines

**Phase I (May – July):** City employees conduct contact tracing

**Phase II (August into Sept):** 10 CBOs within the public workforce system immediately begin contact tracing city-wide

**Phase III (Sept through end of grant term):** 20 CBOs from economically hardest hit communities join the Phase II teams

Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) began contact tracing efforts in March 2020. On June 30, the City of Chicago and CDPH announced The Partnership as the Lead Coordinating Organization to oversee the Chicago COVID Contact Tracing Corps.
Project Overview

The Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership as Lead Coordinating Organization (LCO) will:

- Subcontract with and lead project partners:
  - NORC at the University of Chicago (NORC)
  - University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health (UIC)
  - Sinai Urban Health Institute (SUHI)
  - Malcolm X College of the City Colleges of Chicago (MXC)

- Procure and manage 30 community-based organizations (CBOs) that will employ contact tracers

- Train CBOs on contract compliance, billing, and general workforce development best practices

- Provide technical assistance, program and fiscal monitoring to CBOs

- Oversee NORC and UIC in their delivery of Resource Coordination Hub services
Chicago COVID Contact Tracing Corps

Project Partners & Roles

**UIC**
- Onboard/train CBOs to hire and manage Contact Tracing Corps
- Train contact tracers
- Provide ongoing TA to contact tracers and CBOs to ensure effective work
- Consult on Resource Coordination Hub
- Provide access to educational programs via earn-and-learn

**MXC**
- Provide 12-hr online Community Contact Tracer course as part of comprehensive contact tracer training
- Provide access to career training as part of earn-and-learn
- Provide ongoing training as needed

**SUHI**
- Onboard/train CBOs to hire and manage Contact Tracing Corps
- Train contact tracers
- Provide ongoing TA to contact tracers and CBOs to ensure effective work
- Provide professional development resources as part of earn-and-learn

**NORC**
- Establish and operate Resource Coordination Hub
- Hire Resource Coordinators and Supervisors
- Consult on Contact Tracing Corps
Contact Tracing Corps
Contact Tracing Corps Overview

The Chicago COVID Contact Tracing Corps will consist of:

- 450 Contact Tracers and 30 Supervisors
- 30 Competitively procured Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) from Chicago’s hardest-hit communities
- Earn & Learn training program in healthcare occupations for permanent employment upon completion of tracing corps (separately funded by public and private sectors)

For the purposes of this project, a community based organization is defined as a non-clinical/medical, not-for-profit organization that has demonstrated service delivery to specific populations and/or community areas. Service delivery includes programming driven by an understanding of or directed by community voice.
CBO Selection Principles:

CBOs must:

- Be located in or primarily serve residents in high economic hardship community areas and/or serve populations prioritized by the Chicago Department of Public Health:
  - Residents of high economic hardship community areas
  - Residents returning from incarceration and/or who have historic involvement in the justice system
  - Residents with demonstrated barriers to employment, including, but not limited to, disability, housing, and food or healthcare insecurity

- Demonstrate ability to coordinate with other service providers, including other CBOs and clinical partners, including federally qualified health centers.

- Demonstrate interest in or success in implementing workforce development initiatives.

- Have the ability to reach/serve residents with limited access to healthcare and/or who have other needs that may compromise health, such as food and housing insecurity, mental health conditions, and/or substance use disorders.
The 30 CBOs MUST be located in or primarily serve high economic hardship CCAs and/or Auburn Gresham and/or South Shore.
Funding and Term

**Initial Funding and Period of Performance:**
$40 million from July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

**Extension:**
$16 million for additional term not to exceed 12 months (through June 2022)
Chicago COVID Contact Tracing Corps

The Partnership
$29 mil

Project Partners
$937 k

SUHI
$400 k

UIC
$171.4 k

NORC
$165.5 k

MXC
$200 k

CBOs
$25 mil

RFP Round 1: 10 CBOs
$9 mil

~11 months wages for:
Min. 150 contact tracers @ $20/hr.
10 supervisors @ $24/hr.

RFP Round 2: 20 CBOs
$16 mil

~10 months wages for:
Min. 300 contact tracers @ $20/hr.
20 supervisors @ $24/hr.

Contact Tracing Corps Distribution of Funds

RFP Round 1:
Open to agencies in Partnership’s network in high economic hardship CCAs

RFP Round 2:
Open to all eligible CBOs

Project Partners
$25 mil

SUHI
$937 k

UIC
$171.4 k

NORC
$165.5 k

MXC
$200 k

CBOs
$25 mil

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COVID-19 Resource Coordination Hub
Contact Tracing Corps Overview

In addition to contact tracing, access to supportive services such as health care, housing, employment and food are critical to supporting those infected with COVID-19. The Resource Coordination Hub will:

- Refer diagnosed individuals (and those who had sustained contact with them) to testing, treatment, social services, and other resources
- Be staffed by 90 resource coordinators and 10 supervising resource coordinators
- Provide earn-and-learn opportunities in healthcare occupations (through resources outside the grant)
Chicago COVID Contact Tracing Corps

The Partnership

$11 mil

Project Partners

$10.17 mil

NORC

$9.47 mil

UIC

$699 k

Resource Coordination Hub Distribution of Funds

ChiTracing.com
Corps members will receive regular professional development (6-week intervals) from their CBO employer and via The Partnership collaborative. Topics will include:

Refresher training will include: trauma-informed service delivery and self-care, customer service skills, epidemiology and other related topics.

Earn & Learn program will offer access to paid Healthcare occupational training as well as:

- Career guidance
- Menu of in-demand careers
- Articulated career pathways
- Supportive services
- Job placement in Healthcare or related field
- Retention services
## Project Timeline

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<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Activities and Milestones</th>
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<td><strong>July 2020</strong></td>
<td>• Release Round I RFP&lt;br&gt;• Competitively procure 10 CBOs</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July &amp; August 2020</strong></td>
<td>• Release Round II RFP&lt;br&gt;• Round I CBOs hire 150 contact tracers and 10 contact tracer supervisors</td>
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<td><strong>August &amp; September 2020</strong></td>
<td>• Competitively procure 20 CBOs&lt;br&gt;• Round II CBOs hire 300 contact tracers and 20 contact tracer supervisors&lt;br&gt;• NORC begins hiring 90 resource coordinators; 10 supervising coordinators</td>
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<td><strong>October 2020 to June 2021</strong></td>
<td>• Conduct refresher contact tracing training every 6 weeks (beginning November 2020)&lt;br&gt;• Establish earn-and-learn pathways; promote hiring opportunities to contact tracers and resource coordinators</td>
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Questions?