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LAWNDALE
NEWS

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WEST SIDE TIMES



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ESTABLISHED 1940

Cook County Health to Place Narcan Vending Machines at Cook County Health Hospitals

Cook County Health joined other Cook County leaders on Wednesday, October 23, to announce the placement of vending machines that will dispense Narcan (Naloxone) free of charge at Cook County Health sites, as well as within the Cook County Jail, and Cook County courthouses. Narcan is a nasal spray that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose, restoring normal breathing to a person if their breathing has slowed or stopped because of an overdose. Vending machines are installed in the lobbies of John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital, Provident Hospital and the Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center. They are being installed at three visitor access points at Cook County Jail and each of the 10 Cook County courthouses in Chicago and suburban Cook County. The installation of vending machines in buildings located in Chicago is being supported by American Rescue Plan Act dollars allocated by Cook County government to Cook County Health. Vending machines in suburban Cook County locations are funded by ARPA dollars allocated to the Cook County Department of Public



Health. Currently, Cook County Health provides Narcan kits to interested individuals upon release from jail. Now, family and friends of those in custody will also have easy access to the medication.

Cook County Health Instalará Máquinas Expendedoras de Narcan en los Hospitales de Cook County Health

Cook County Health se unió a otros líderes del Condado de Cook el miércoles, 23 de octubre, para anunciar la colocación de máquinas expendedoras que dispensarán Narcan en los hospitales de Cook County Health.

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Illinois DCFS Honors Adoptive Parents During Adoption Awareness Month

Governor JB Pritzker has proclaimed November Adoption Awareness Month, and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) is celebrating the lifelong commitment thousands of families across the state have made by opening their hearts and homes to 19,347 children who have needed a loving family in the past decade. Courtrooms across the state are also opening their doors to finalize the adoptions during special Adoption Day celebrations on November 22 in Chicago and Marion, November 23 in Rockford and December 27 in Edwardsville. Last fiscal year 2,184 Illinois children were adopted into permanent, loving families. There are 18,850 youth in care waiting for a family and place to call home. To learn more about some



of them, visit the Heart Gallery of Illinois at <https://greenlightfamilyservices.org/heartgalleryofil/>. For more information about becoming an adoptive parent, visit dcfs.illinois.gov and click on “Loving Homes” then on “Become a Foster or Adoptive Parent.” Adoption is a serious and permanent commitment to a child. DCFS offers a range of supports to adoptive families,

including reimbursement for attorney fees and court costs, a monthly subsidy, a medical card and other benefits which assist in defraying expenses associated with raising a child. Many considering adoption become licensed foster families first, giving them a better understanding of the needs of children from disrupted families before making a life-changing decision.

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Greektown Chicago Kicks-Off Holiday Programs

Greektown Chicago is illuminated with blue and white lights along Halsted Street this November as it kicks off the holiday season with Greek-themed festivities and events—including its annual Greektown tree lighting event with Santa, Shopper's Reward Program, and traditional Greek holiday karavákia display of small illuminated boats in businesses throughout the neighborhood. The Greektown Shopper's Reward Program offers a \$50 rebate for visitors who shop and dine in the neighborhood through December 31, 2024. Shoppers can receive a \$50 Visa gift card after mailing in original receipts from at least three different eligible Greektown businesses, with a grand total of \$250 or more. A list of participating Greektown businesses and additional details on



the rebate are available at greektownchicago.org. The annual Greektown tree lighting ceremony will be the weekend before Thanksgiving, on Sunday, November 24 from 5-6 p.m. at Elysian Field (southeast corner of Halsted & Van

Buren Streets) including an appearance from Santa, complimentary treats and hot chocolate. For more information, visit GreektownChicago.org. **Photo Credit: Greektown Chicago**



Greektown Chicago da Inicio a los Programas Navideños

Greektown Chicago se ilumina con luces azules y blancas a lo largo de Halsted Street este noviembre para dar inicio a la temporada navideña con festividades y eventos de temática griega, incluido su evento anual de iluminación del árbol de Greektown con Santa, el Programa de recompensas para compradores y la tradicional exhibición navideña griega karavákia de pequeños barcos iluminados en negocios de todo el vecindario. El Programa de recompensas para com-

pradores de Greektown ofrece un reembolso de \$50 para los visitantes que compren y cenen en el vecindario hasta el 31 de diciembre de 2024. Los compradores pueden recibir una tarjeta de regalo Visa de \$50 después de enviar por correo los recibos originales de al menos tres negocios diferentes elegibles de Greektown, con un total general de \$250 o más. Una lista de los negocios participantes de Greektown y detalles adicionales sobre el reembolso están disponibles

en greektownchicago.org. La ceremonia anual de iluminación del árbol de Greektown será el fin de semana anterior al Día de Acción de Gracias, el domingo 24 de noviembre de 5 a 6 p. m. en el Elysian Field (esquina sureste de las calles Halsted y Van Buren), que incluye la aparición de Santa Claus, golosinas de cortesía y chocolate caliente. Para obtener más información, visite GreektownChicago.org. **Crédito de la foto: Greektown Chicago**

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CountyCare es uno de los mejores planes de salud de Medicaid gratuito para los residentes del Condado de Cook.

Obtenga más información en countycare.com/es/rewardsyou o llame al 312-864-8200.



El Servicio de Inscripción de Clientes de Illinois le enviará la información sobre las opciones de los planes de salud cuando deba elegir un plan de salud y durante el período abierto para afiliaciones. El programa de recompensas Visa de CountyCare no puede ser utilizado para la compra de alcohol, tabaco, armas de fuego o juegos de azar.

Las miembros de CountyCare que están embarazadas pueden obtener una recompensa de \$50 por notificar el plan de su embarazo, recompensas de \$50 para visitas en el primer trimestre y una recompensa de \$10 por cada visita prenatal, hasta 14 visitas. Las miembros obtienen una recompensa de \$50 por la primera visita durante el primer mes del bebé, y \$10 para las siguientes cinco visitas. Se les proporcionará a las miembros de 16 meses o más una recompensa de \$50 para que su PCP asignado les realice un chequeo anual. Las miembros obtienen una recompensa de \$50 para realizarse una evaluación de riesgos de salud una vez al año. Las recompensas para las evaluaciones de detección de cáncer dependen del tipo de evaluación. Los miembros mayores de 2 años que se vacunen contra la influenza con su PCP o en una farmacia afiliada a la red recibirán una recompensa de \$25 en su tarjeta, una vez al año.

Government Alliance for Safe Communities Announces \$100M in Grant Opportunities for Violence Prevention Initiatives



The Government Alliance for Safe Communities (GASC) today announced a commitment to invest \$100 million across City, County, and State government partners to sustain and scale critical community violence intervention programming (CVI) across the region. Comprised of leadership and key representatives from funding agencies at the State, County and

La Alianza Gubernamental para Comunidades Seguras Anuncia \$100 Millones en Oportunidades de Subvención para Iniciativas de Prevención de la Violencia

La Alianza Gubernamental para Comunidades Seguras (GASC, por sus siglas en inglés) anunció hoy un compromiso de invertir \$100 millones entre socios gubernamentales de la ciudad, el condado y el estado para sostener y ampliar la programación crítica de intervención en casos de violencia comunitaria (CVI, por sus siglas en inglés) en toda la región. Compuesta por líderes y representantes clave de agencias de financiamiento del estado, el condado y la ciudad, la GASC se formó en 2021 para fortalecer el ecosistema de seguridad comunitaria en la región metropolitana de Chicago. La iniciativa de financiamiento de la GASC 2025 incluye dos oportunidades de subvención para financiamiento programático de CVI por un total de aproximadamente \$57 millones, con oportunidades de financiamiento adicionales a continuación. Estas oportunidades de subvención están disponibles a través del Programa Reimagine Violence Prevention Services, patrocinado por el Departamento de Servicios



Humanos de Illinois, y la Organización Líder para Expandir la Capacidad de Intervenciones en Casos de Violencia Comunitaria - Servicios de Extensión en la Calle patrocinados por la Ciudad de Chicago. La iniciativa de financiación también incluye una oportunidad de financiación de 2,5 millones de dólares para establecer una red centralizada de creación de capacidades para la seguridad comunitaria, la primera de su tipo, patrocinada por la Autoridad de Información de Justicia Penal de Illinois para apoyar a las organizaciones comunitarias que prestan servicios a las comunidades más vulnerables y a las que corren mayor riesgo de sufrir violencia con armas de fuego. Todas las oportunidades de financiación se enumeran en el sitio web de GASC

en ILGovAlliance.org y en los sitios web de cada agencia.

City, GASC was formed in 2021 to strengthen the community safety ecosystem in the greater Chicago region. The 2025 GASC funding initiative includes two grant opportunities for programmatic CVI funding totaling approximately \$57 million, with additional funding opportunities to follow. These grant opportunities are available through the *Reimagine Violence*

Prevention Services Program, sponsored by the Illinois Department of Human Services, and the *Lead Organization for Expanding Capacity for Community Violence Interventions - Street Outreach Services* sponsored by the City of Chicago. The funding initiative also includes a \$2.5 million funding opportunity for establishing a first-of-its-kind centralized

Capacity Building Network for Community Safety sponsored by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority to support community-based organizations serving the most vulnerable communities and those at highest risk for gun violence. All funding opportunities are listed on the GASC website at ILGovAlliance.org and on each agencies' websites.

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Governor Pritzker Encourages Income-Eligible Families to Apply for LIHEAP Utility Bill Assistance



Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) announced all income-eligible households can now apply for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to support with utility bill assistance for natural gas, propane and electricity. Applications expanded and will be accepted through August 15, 2025, or until funds are exhausted. The

energy bill assistance program offered through Help Illinois Families will provide \$226 million to eligible families to assist with natural gas, propane, electricity bills and furnace

assistance. Beginning today, all income-eligible families can apply by visiting helpillinoisfamilies.com. Families can also call 1-833-711-0374 for assistance in 30 languages.



Treasurer Frerichs Clinches Sixth Morningstar Gold Rating For Bright Start 529 Savings Plan

Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs announced that Illinois' Bright Start 529 College Savings Plan has again earned top rankings from Morningstar, keeping the plan among the best in the nation. Morningstar independently evaluates and rates college savings plans annually, assigning each rated plan a Morningstar Analyst Rating of Gold, Silver, Bronze, Neutral, or Negative. Bright Start is 1 of only 5 Gold-rated 529 plans in the country. In its review, Morningstar identified Bright Start

as a "Valedictorian," and as a standout plan offering "exceptional state stewardship of investor capital and well-constructed portfolios managed by competent investment teams." The announcement marks the sixth time that Bright Start won Gold since Frerichs' revamped the plan in 2017. In the state profile, Morningstar recognized Illinois as a strong advocate for college savers, and for effectively acquiring the features families need, as evidenced by its new investment manager. Morningstar also noted

Illinois' generous \$20,000 annual deduction on state income taxes for couples filing jointly. Bright Start is a 529 College Savings plan that can be used at eligible educational institutions, including public and private schools; two-year and four-year colleges and universities; technical and vocational schools; and registered apprenticeship programs. The investment grows tax-free when spent on qualified expenses. For more information about the Treasurer's Office 529 College Savings programs, visit www.illinoistreasurer.gov.

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This property with its architecturally award winning atrium provides seniors and disabled individuals with parking, library, laundry room, Wellness Center and other conveniences.

A service coordinator is on staff to assist tenants who may need additional services. The units are studio and one bedroom, each with electric appliances, tile bath, and wall to wall carpeting. Modern fire and safety systems are installed in each apartment and common areas of the building. There are also 8 accessible one bedroom units for the mobility impaired. The Oaks is owned and operated by The Oak Park Residence Corporation and is funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development through the 202/section 8 Program. Residents pay approximately 30% of their monthly income for rent. For additional information please visit our website at www.oakparkha.org or contact us at 708-386-5812.



Cook County Health Instalará Máquinas... *Viene de la página 1*

can (Naloxone) gratis en los sitios de Cook County Health, así como dentro de la Cárcel del Condado de Cook y los juzgados del Condado de Cook. El Narcan es un spray nasal que puede revertir los efectos de una sobre dosis de opioides, restaurando la respiración normal a una persona si su respiración ha disminuido o se ha detenido a causa de una sobredosis. Las máquinas expendedoras son instaladas en los vestíbulos del Hospital John H. Stroger, Jr., Provident Hospital y el Ruth M. Rothsten CORE Center. Están siendo instaladas en tres puntos de acceso a los visitantes en la Cárcel del Condado de Cook y en cada uno de los 10 juzgados del Condado



de Cook en Chicago y los Suburbios del Condado de Cook. La instalación de máquinas expendedoras en edificios localizados en Chicago es apoyada por fondos de American Rescue Plan Act, ubicados por el gobierno del Condado de Cook a Cook County Health. Las máquinas expendedoras en los locales del suburbio del Condado

de Cook están financiadas por fondos de ARPA ubicados al Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Cook. Actualmente, Cook County Health provee estuches Narcan a las personas interesadas, tras salir de la cárcel. Ahora, las familias y amigos de quienes están en custodia tendrán también fácil acceso al medicamento.

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