

## Daniel La Spata

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October 19, 2023

Chairman Jason Ervin  
Committee on Budget and Government Operations  
121 N La Salle St Rm 200  
Chicago, IL 60602

Honorable Chairman Ervin,

Following the Budget Hearing for Chicago Department of Public Health on October 19, 2023, I kindly request the following questions through the chair.

In the Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports, audits consistently demonstrate that Public Health has underspent its personnel budget. In 2020, the department only spent 53% of its corporate fund personnel budget (2020 ACFR pg 132); in 2021, the department only spent 30% of its corporate fund personnel budget (2021 ACFR pg 138); and in 2022, the department only spent 74% of its corporate fund personnel budget (2022 ACFR pg 143). What is keeping the Department from consistently hiring its corporate fund budget allocation?

The FY24 Budget Proposal appears to include five new positions for Community Health Workers (5 positions) and Emergency Preparedness (6 positions); plus three new hires under grant management; overall, fourteen new positions across the full department. What is CDPH's plan to actively recruit candidates for these positions and hire-up as quickly as possible?

In the FY24 budget proposal, on pages 590 - 591, it demonstrates CDPH had 2023 grant funds of \$895,922,392, with a carryover of more than \$640 million and new grants of nearly \$152 million. This results in a cut of more than \$100 million in grants. Which programs are facing the worst of the cuts, and what services will be most impacted as a result? Will the Department be actively seeking opportunities to replace these lost grants with new grants or dedicated funding?

In the FY24 budget proposal, on page 586, it demonstrates CDPH is carrying over \$134 million of \$152 million in 2023 American Rescue Plan Act funds. How much of this carryover was planned last year, and how much of it was unexpected? How much of the \$134 million is the department planning to spend in 2024, as opposed to carrying over to 2025 and 2026?

Is there a plan in place for COVID, Flu, etc. vaccinations in shelters for new arrivals? How will coordination between the Office of New Americans and CDPH look like moving forward? With the State government pausing new enrollment into the Health Benefits for Immigrant Adults Program, what additional healthcare coverage options are being offered to our undocumented community here in Chicago?

Sincerely,



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Alderman Daniel La Spata  
1st Ward Alderman  
Chairman, Committee on Pedestrian and Traffic Safety