

Kane County Health Department

April 4, 2013 Contact: Tom Schlueter (630) 444-3098 (630) 417-9729 cell

ADVISORY

Hasbrouck to visit KCHD during National Public Health Week. Director will be present as Department officially files for accreditation status.

Who: Dr. Lamar Hasbrouck, Director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, Kane County Board Chairman Chris Lauzen, members of the County Board and other dignitaries will visit KCHD.

What: Celebration of National Public Health Week and the department's accreditation launch.

When: Friday, April 5, 1:30 p.m. (Remarks start approximately 2:30 p.m.)

Where: 1240 N. Highland Ave., Aurora, Suite 13

Why: On April 5th we will "push the button" that officially puts the Health Department in the Public Health Accreditation Board's (PHAB) queue to be evaluated for national accreditation status for local health departments. This will make us one of the first departments in the state who have reached this point. So far, only 11 local health departments nationwide have reached accreditation.

Accreditation through PHAB provides a means for a department to identify performance improvement opportunities, to improve management, develop leadership, and improve relationships with the community. The process is one that challenges the health department to think about what business it does and how it does that business. It encourages and stimulates quality and performance improvement and stimulates greater accountability and transparency.

Each year the first week of April is celebrated as National Public Health Week. This year's theme is "Public Health is ROI: Save Lives, Save Money." The 2013 NPHW theme was developed to highlight the value of prevention and the importance of well-supported public health systems in preventing disease, saving lives and curbing health care spending.