COOK COUNTY EQUITY INVESTMENT

Since taking office, President Preckwinkle has worked tirelessly to address decades of trauma and disinvestment by providing hundreds of millions of dollars in no cost healthcare and tens of millions of dollars to economic development and justice grants. This FY2021 budget is building on the administration’s long record of addressing inequality by adding a commitment of close to $100 million to be invested over the next two years.

FY 2021 EQUITY INVESTMENTS

The County’s $100 million investment over the next two years includes $20 million each to the Justice Advisory Council and Bureau of Economic Development in new funding for equity programs. This is a snapshot of the programmatic areas of the proposed $40 million of equity investments in the FY2021 budget.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

A recent evaluation by DePaul University stated JAC programs and practices are evidence-informed and thus have proven to be effective in delivering successful outcomes.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Expected to provide $312 million no cost care for individuals not eligible for insurance with $30 million in behavioral health care, predominately on the South and West sides of Chicago.

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Bureau of Economic Development is expanding the financial investments for small businesses, job training and placement, and critical community services to support maximizing economic and community impact.

COMMUNITY ACCESS INVESTMENTS

$38.7 Million

$30.2 million for Fair Transit Demonstration in partnership with regional public transit agencies to reduce fairs and improve rider services and $8.5 million in funding for the Invest in Cook transportation program.

$4.2 Million

$2.3 million in match funding over FY21 & FY22 to improve digital equity in the Southland.

Cook County remains committed to improving the quality of life of all residents. This budget contains historic investments in restorative justice, violence prevention, digital equity, public health, workforce training, affordable transportation and housing assistance directed to racially and ethnically segregated areas of poverty across Cook County and represents a commitment to increased equity funding in future budgets.