

Telling the Story of Equity, Health, and Energy in Chicago

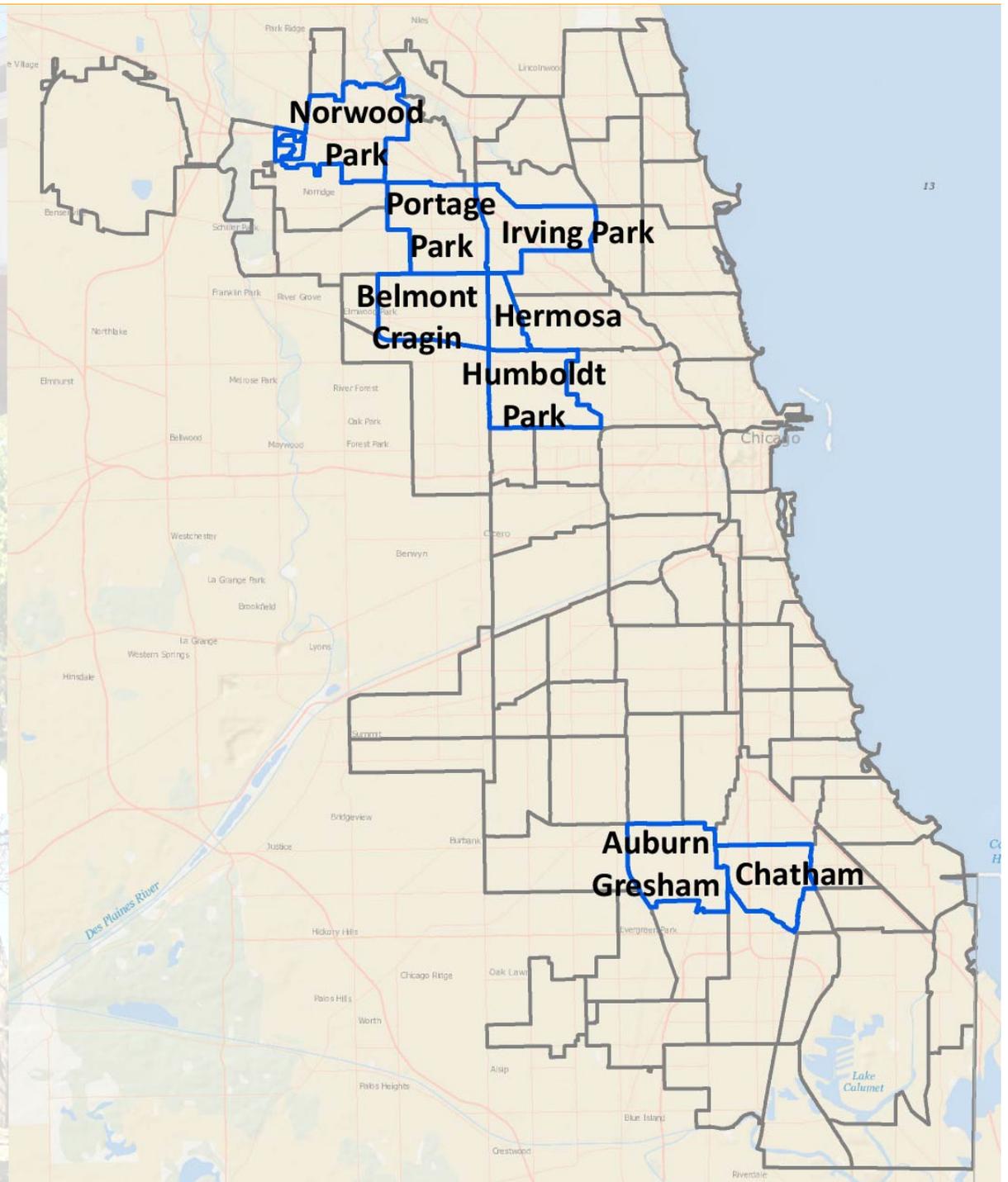
Anna C. McCreery, Elevate Energy

Presented at the 2018 Conference on Health, Environment and Energy



“Different neighborhoods, there’s always sometimes a bungalow, no matter where you would go in the city...it’s like a hidden gem.” –bungalow homeowner

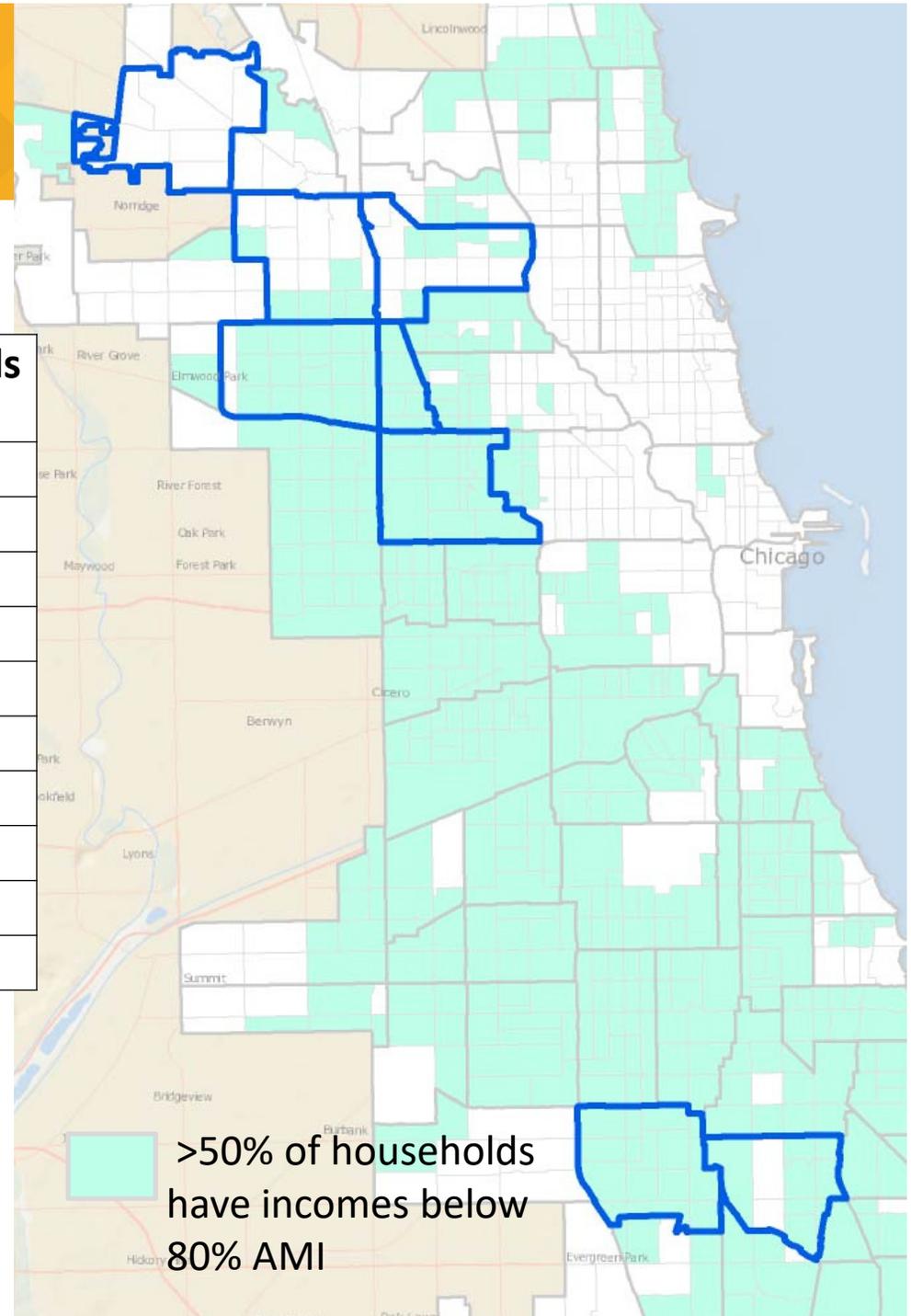
“It’s an architectural style and solid housing construction that we think is ideally suited for us.” –bungalow homeowner



Income eligible

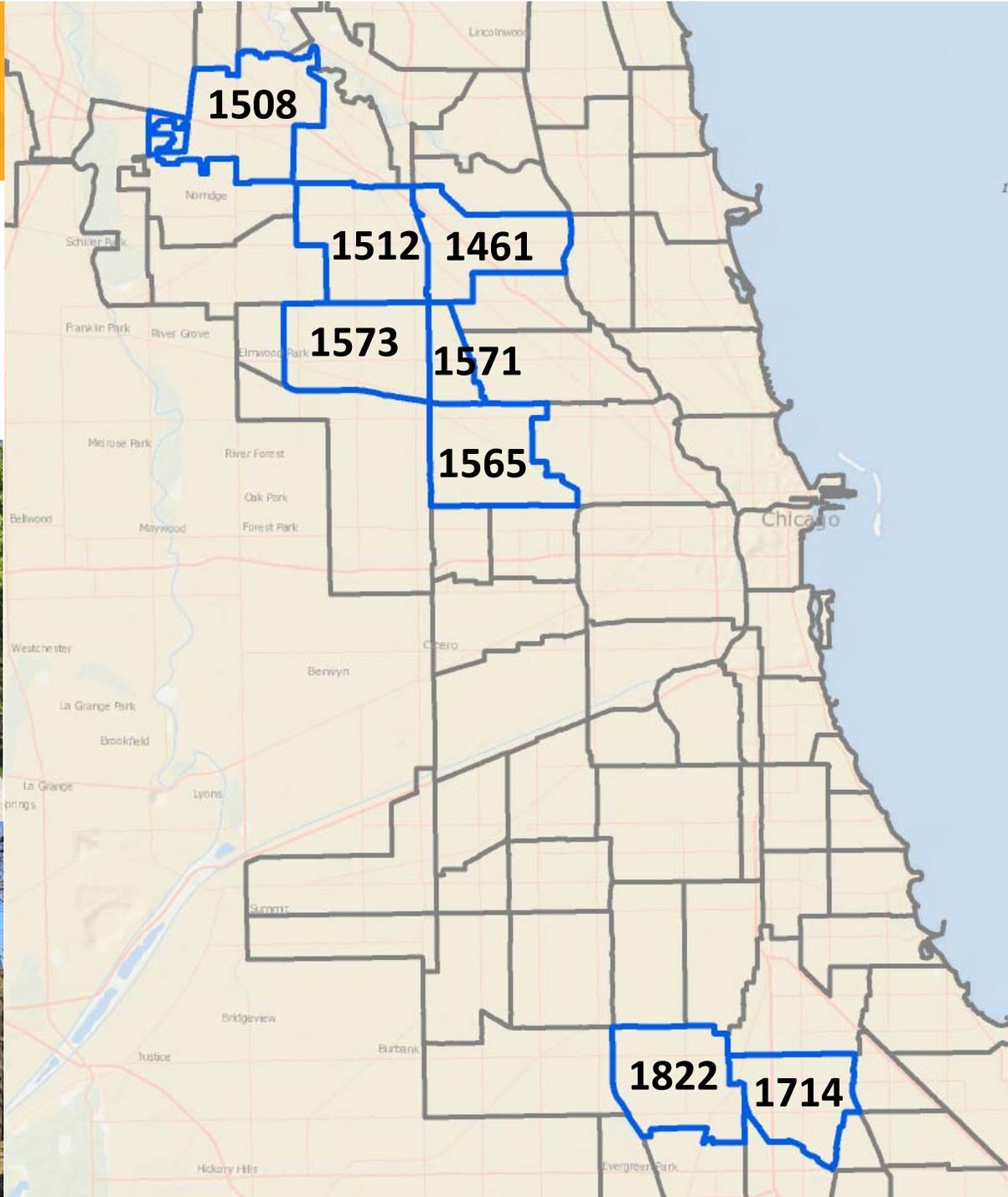
	Median income	% households <80% AMI
Norwood Park	\$71,282	37%
Portage Park	\$57,031	47%
Irving Park	\$51,997	48%
Belmont Cragin	\$43,534	64%
Hermosa	\$39,157	66%
Humboldt Park	\$32,073	70%
Auburn Gresham	\$30,469	72%
Chatham	\$32,222	67%

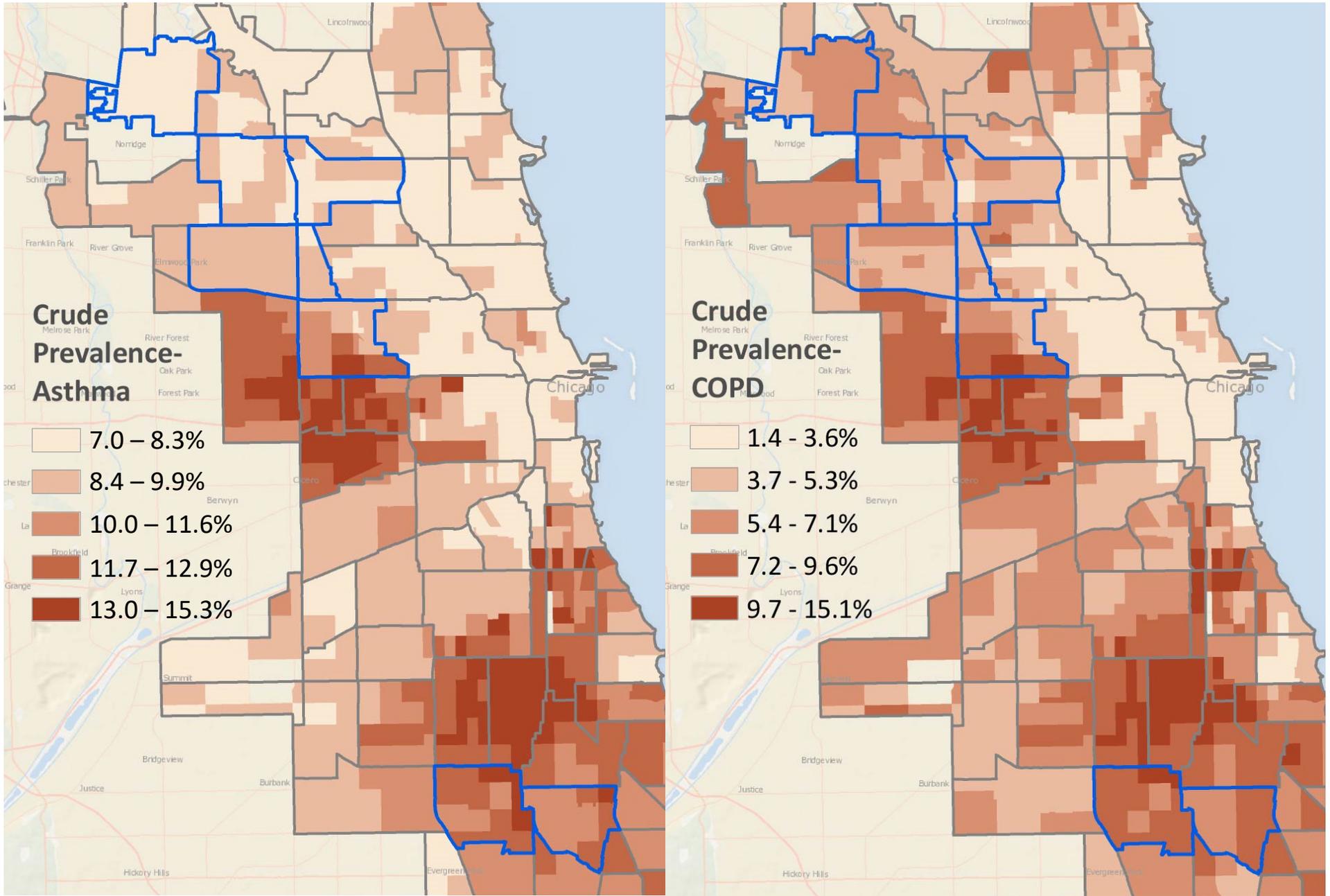
Source: 2018 Elevate Energy analysis of American Community Survey, 2016 5-Year Estimates; National Housing Preservation Database, as of October 2017; HUD AMI Designations 2016; Platts Utility territory shapefiles



Gas use

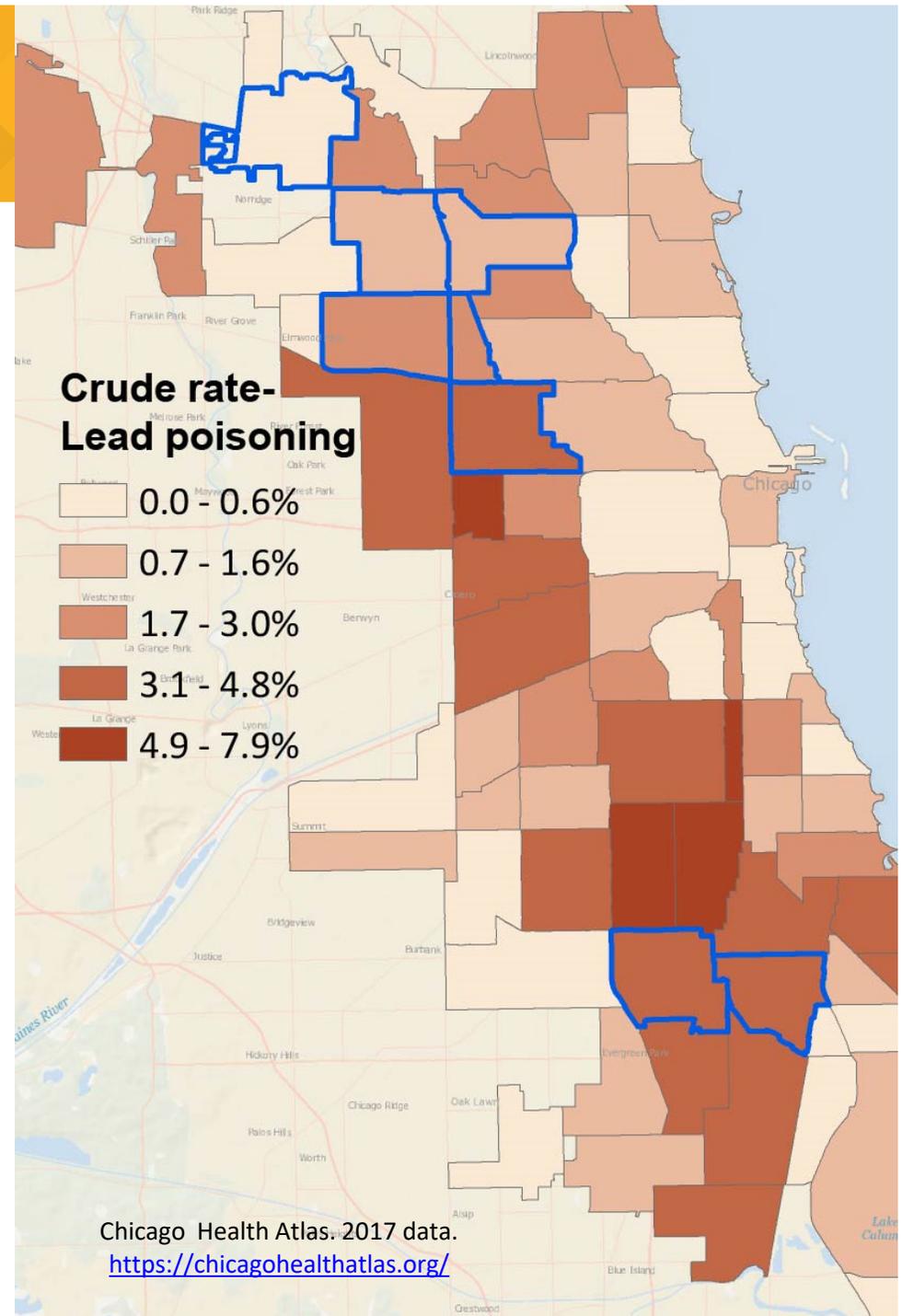
Median annual therm use in bungalow homes





Lead poisoning

- Sources of lead in the Homes (pre-1978):
 - Dust and Paint
 - Soil
 - Water
- In children: highly toxic to many organs and systems, & seriously hinders the body's neurological development
- 2.2% of Chicago children age 1 or 2 have elevated Blood Lead Levels (6mg/dL)



Chicago – the segregated city...

	White (%)	Latino/a (%)	Black (%)	Asian (%)
Norwood Park	80.8	11.8	0.9	4.2
Portage Park	50.3	41.8	1.3	4.4
Irving Park	40.1	46.6	2.2	8.2
Belmont Cragin	14.2	80.0	3.1	1.5
Hermosa	7.4	88.2	1.5	1.4
Humboldt Park	5.4	52.0	40.9	0.5
Auburn Gresham	0.5	1.5	96.9	0.3
Chatham	1.2	0.9	96.6	0.3



Program interventions

Presence Asthma Pilot
Preventative Lead Abatement



Issue: Lead Paint



Old wood windows are a common source of lead hazards, along with doors and door frames, stairs, and porches.



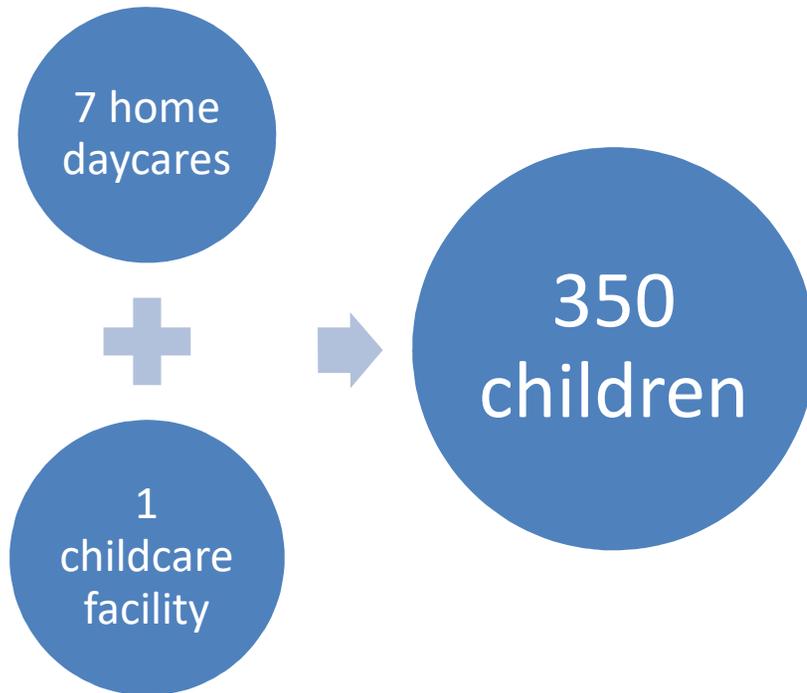
Program: Preventive Lead Abatement

- *Target population:*
 - Home-based daycares built before 1978
 - Auburn Gresham and Humboldt Park
- *Participants receive:*
 - Lead risk assessment
 - Lead abatement if hazards found
 - Education on lead poisoning prevention

“[Elevate Energy] made it lead-free, they drywalled the basement, the ceiling and the walls, and it’s beautiful. I’m very excited about it, and I’m so appreciative. The light bill has dropped. I’m happy about the house and I’m sure my children feel different because the atmosphere is different because of the work that was done in the basement.”



Impact and Outcomes



“This program improved the quality of my daycare, I know the kids are safe because the program addressed issues.”

“The program increased my awareness and knowledge on lead. It opened my eyes to lead and its effects, especially dust.”



Program participant story



“The program helped my home tremendously. It repaired things I could not afford and improved the environment. It gave my home a fresh start.”

Pre-Intervention:

- Historic Chicago Bungalow
- Built 1926
- In-home daycare

Healthy Housing Interventions:

- Remediated suspected lead-based paint
- Installed energy efficient doors
- Replaced basement ceiling
- Proper venting of combustion appliances

Project Cost: \$33,649



Issue: mold and indoor air quality



40% of asthma incidents are caused by environmental triggers commonly found in the home.

“I do normally suffer from allergies... I had a home in [previous neighborhood] and it did have a little mold issue and so I knew my breathing wasn’t well there. I’ve noticed a difference, definitely, in this home because there’s not any of those issues.” –bungalow homeowner



Program: Presence Asthma Pilot

Target Population:

- Asthma patients-hospitalized in the past 12 months
- Uninsured

Participants Receive:

- Personalized, home-based asthma education
- Healthy homes supplies (up to \$400)
- Minor home improvements to reduce exposure to allergens/asthma triggers (up to \$4,000)
- Enrolling in energy efficiency programs (up to \$6,500)



Program participant story



Project Cost: \$4,380
Primary Funding Sources:
Chicago Community Trust,
Community Benefits Dollars

Pre-Intervention:

- Two unit building
- Built 1907
- 55 year old woman and her 25 year old daughter both with asthma
- Both had been hospitalized in the past 6 months

Healthy Housing Interventions:

- Replaced water heater and new venting
- Boiler clean and tune
- Replaced venting for dryer
- Patched walls
- Removed carpeting and replaced flooring
- Addressed negative pitch on water heater
- Caulked and sealed bathtub
- Pest management
- Provided Healthy Homes supplies

Case study issue: combustion safety

Before



After



Disconnected flue vent for the water heater. Deadly carbon monoxide is being emitted to the basement when it should be vented to the outside.

Questions? -- Stay in Touch

Anna McCreery

Anna.McCreery@ElevateEnergy.org

(773) 922-3023

ElevateEnergy.org



@elevate_energy



Facebook/elevateenergy



LinkedIn



This research is based upon work supported by the Urban Institute through funds provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. We thank them for their support but acknowledge that the findings and conclusions presented in this report are those of the author(s) alone, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Urban Institute or the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

