

SCY 2014 Annual Report



A Year of People, Partnerships, and Progress

Strengthening Chicago's Youth (SCY), a violence prevention program convened by Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, is excited to share our second annual report describing SCY's growth, accomplishments, and partnerships in 2014 with a look ahead to 2015.



Gains & Growth

By the Numbers

SCY's violence prevention coalition grew by over 50% in 2014 to 3000 individuals representing more than 700 organizations, agencies, and institutions. SCY also added two new [staff](#), Edward Boone, Community Programs Coordinator, and Matthew Berkley, Program Assistant.

In 2014, SCY hosted 11 trainings attended by 262 participants—a 75% increase over 2013—and four quarterly meetings attended by 120 partners and focused on storytelling, youth engagement, partnering with law enforcement, and policy agenda development.



Partnerships & Projects

Ideas, Collaborations, and Communication

In 2014, SCY developed the Chicago Ideas Week Lab, "[Building Connections to Strengthen Chicago's Youth](#)" based on the premise that connectedness is a critical asset in preventing violence. SCY continued to lead the Community-Academic Collaboration to Prevent Violence in Chicago ([CACPVC](#)), funded by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development of the National Institutes of Health under Grant R13HD075478, with the goal to identify the highest priorities of community residents to improve knowledge about violence in Chicago using community-based participatory research.

During National Youth Violence Prevention Week, SCY focused efforts on a social media campaign to achieve awareness and action through mobilization around SCY's [Focus on Five](#). SCY partnered with youth service providers and government stakeholders in Cook County on the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center (JTDC) Alternatives [Collaborative](#) to initiate the development of a care coordination model for justice-involved youth, whose mission is to minimize further involvement of arrested youth in the justice system and reduce racial disparities by facilitating and coordinating access to comprehensive support services that meet adolescents' developmental needs. In 2014, SCY joined the [Mayor's Commission for a Safer Chicago](#), a group of over 130 community and faith leaders, practitioners, subject matter experts, city staff, parents, and youth focused on developing a strategic plan to prevent youth violence in Chicago.



Policy & Progress

Weekly Policy Update and Laws Passed

To support involvement in policy and advocacy activities, SCY created a [Policy Update newsletter](#), which is sent out weekly when the Illinois General Assembly is in session and other times when there are topics on which urgent advocacy by SCY partners is needed. SCY advocated for a number of bills; those passed by the General Assembly and signed into law address school discipline data transparency, juvenile records expungement, and schools' anti-bullying policies.



Looking Forward—2015

What to Expect in 2015

In 2015, SCY's efforts will focus on revised [strategies](#): 1) coordinate efforts around the revised SCY [policy agenda](#), 2) facilitate sharing of knowledge among and provide technical assistance and training to community organizations, 3) encourage conversations about the preventability of violence and how every individual and organization can play a role, and 4) foster connections between community organizations and researchers.

Be sure to save the dates for SCY's 2015 [quarterly meetings](#):

- **Feb 5** - Mayor's Commission for a Safer Chicago
- **May 14** - Community Café: Bringing the Reports to Life (Transparency in Cook County Juvenile Court and Juvenile Justice Needs Assessment)
- **August 19** - Tentative Topic: Early Childhood
- **November 10** - Tentative Topic: Girls & Violence

SCY is also planning monthly trainings throughout the year. For a complete list of upcoming trainings, please visit scy-chicago.org/training.



Stay Connected with SCY

Social Media and Contact Information

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