

June 3, 2020

Strengthening  
Chicago's  
Youth



## Letter from the Interim Executive Director

Greetings!,

SCY and partners continue to grieve the senseless acts of racism that led to the death of George Floyd and countless others. Through this grief, we find ourselves focused on recovery and beginning the healing process. It will be an ongoing process that will require the work of multiple systems, but as our city is one of resilience -- we remain hopeful and motivated that together we will achieve permanent change to dismantle systemic racism. SCY will continue to connect and share resources to take action and address these issues.

Read [SCY statement](#) about violence, racism and our work ahead. Visit [facebook.com/StrengtheningChicagosYouth/](https://facebook.com/StrengtheningChicagosYouth/) for more.

Sincerely,

Leslie Helmcamp  
Interim Executive Director  
Strengthening Chicago's Youth  
Injury Prevention and Research Center  
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

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## BLOG HIGHLIGHT

### The Advocacy for the BIO Bill is Not Over

*This week's blog is written by Dion McGill, SCY Communications and Community Outreach Manager.*

Unfortunately, Chicago recently saw one of the most violent Memorial Day's in recent memory, and reportedly the most violence in five years. The violence continued to extend into the week, with 23 people shot between Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. It shines yet another light on the ongoing need for common sense gun legislation. This is why the BIO Bill, SB 1966, is so important for Illinois right now.

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## HEALTH EQUITY AND COVID-19

### Exploring Disparities and Community Impact

Although no one is immune to those pandemic, why do we see such a disproportionate impact in many ethnically and racially diverse communities? Not only are we seeing these disparities in morbidity and mortality, we are also seeing these same communities experiencing an unequal share of the economic burden of COVID-19. Join this webinar to discuss this question and more with a panel of health equity experts.

Thursday, June 4, 2020  
2:00 pm  
Online

**NATIONAL COUNCIL**  
FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

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## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN A TIME OF ISOLATION

### Webinar

Attendees will look at the basics of civic engagement and brainstorm on how to do democracy and social justice in the time of fear, isolation, and danger. The facilitator is Tom Tresser, a long time civic educator and public defender and co-founder of the [CivicLab](#). There will be some pre-reading and the Breakout Room feature of Zoom will be used for small group sharing and report-backs.



**CivicLab**

Saturday, June 13, 2020  
10:00 am  
Online

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## HILL DAY AT HOME

Learn Today. Tomorrow Take Action.

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed how we work and how we live. But the needs of people with mental health and addictions are more acute than ever. And so is the need to advocate for them and the organizations that serve them. This four-hour learning event will include keynote speakers, the latest legislative updates, immersive breakout sessions and all the great content you've come to expect from Hill Day.

Tuesday, June 23, 2020  
11:00 am  
Online

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## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Chicago's 7th Annual Race Against Gun Violence

While [Strides for Peace](#) is eager to bring people together for an awesome lakefront race and celebration, they want to make sure EVERYONE is safe and stays safe. COVID-19 is impacting hardest the same areas where gun violence is escalating. With the all the challenges and uncertainty, we want to give people something they can count on and positively engage in - now! Because so many are craving community and connection, launching virtually now provides a needed and special opportunity for people to train together, connect to community organizations and be part of building peace.



Thursday, September 24, 2020  
Online

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## WHAT WILL YOUR GENERATION'S LEGACY BE?

Chicago 200 Online

Chicago200 Online is a free online program open to all 18-25 across Chicagoland, that focuses on developing the leadership skills and Cultural Intelligence to enable young people to work across boundaries - generation, geography, sector, specialism, background or belief. The program starts on June 16th and runs for 6 weeks and participants can dip in and out to suit their schedule during that time. On completion participants gain a digital badge that they can add to their

online profile or resume and they become part of the 85,000+ Common Purpose global alumni.

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## **VOICES OF CHILD HEALTH IN CHICAGO REPORT**

Youth Health and Social Problems Getting Worse the Fastest in Chicago

In this report, [Voices of Child Health in Chicago](#) explores which youth health and social issues parents in Chicago considered to be the problems that were getting worse the fastest. Some of the report highlights include the following: violence was the issue most frequently identified by parents as the problem getting worse the fastest for Chicago youth; younger parents were more likely than older parents to consider substance use the problem getting worse the fastest for Chicago youth; moms and dads had similar levels of concerns about youth mental health.



# Voices of Child Health in Chicago

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## **NEWSLETTER CONTENT**

To have an event or article included in SCY's bi-monthly update, email Operations Coordinator [Kirstin Grabski](#).

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Ann & Robert H. Lurie  
Children's Hospital of Chicago®

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STAY CONNECTED:

