

## Letter from the Interim Executive Director

Greetings!

Yesterday, such tragic news around violence came to us both locally and nationally. Cook County devastatingly recorded over 1,000 murders this year, the highest number since 1994 and nearly 100 more than this time last year. And in Michigan, a mass shooting in a high school has claimed the lives of at least four students. For those who work in violence prevention, these kinds of events can be overwhelming since we know that violence is preventable. We hope that both situations get the calls to action they deserve and SCY will continue doing our part to make them happen.

Sincerely,  
Leslie Helmcamp  
Interim Executive Director  
Strengthening Chicago's Youth  
Patrick M. Magoon Institute for Healthy Communities  
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

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## FEATURED ARTICLE: SCY ONLINE TRAINING EVENT

### Promoting Firearm Safety

This training facilitated by Chicago area physician experts engaged in the field of healthcare education on gun violence prevention, will discuss topics such as the epidemiology of gun violence, statistics, safe storage practices, emergency protection orders, and more. Attendees will also have the opportunity to



participate in an interactive discussion about what healthcare workers can do to help reduce gun violence and become better advocates.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Review the epidemiology and statistics of firearm related injuries and deaths in the United States
- Learn how to provide safe storage counseling to at-risk patients or their families
- Better understand emergency risk protection orders and recognize high risk patient scenarios

Friday, December 10, 2021

9:00 am – 11:00 am  
Online (via Zoom)

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## GETTING CANDID

### Youth Mental Wellbeing Q&A

Hosted by [National Council Youth Ambassadors](#), this event aims to provide youth and youth-serving providers with access to board-certified psychiatrists to get accurate, science-based information about youth substance use and mental health.

Thursday, December 2, 2021  
3:00 pm  
Online (via Zoom)

NATIONAL COUNCIL  
for Mental Wellbeing

HEALTHY MINDS • STRONG COMMUNITIES

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## CONFRONTING RACISM

### Helping Youth Heal from Racism-Based Trauma through Empowerment and Activism

Racism can cause significant and chronic traumatic stress in BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) children and youth. Racism-based trauma has been linked to psychological distress, physical health problems, depression, anxiety, and children's ability to succeed academically and socially. Join [Bright Promises Foundation](#) for a panel discussion with leading experts in the field of race-based trauma, gain understanding about how to recognize youth trauma caused by racism, and learn how you can help empower youth and support their healing.

Tuesday, December 7, 2021  
11:00 am  
Online (via Zoom)

bright promises FOUNDATION  
 150 years

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## PSYCHOLOGICAL SAFETY AND EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

### How Embracing Discomfort Leads to Growth

As organizations work to fully embed equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) in their values, goals, and culture, it is vital to create safe spaces

for staff to learn, share, challenge ideas, and respectfully engage others – a process that also helps staff advance their own personal and professional EDI journeys. This interactive session will outline the benefits of a psychologically safe organization and will offer specific strategies that can be used to address common challenges and create an internal culture of psychological safety that fosters EDI growth.

Thursday, December 9, 2021  
10:00 am – 11:00 am  
Online

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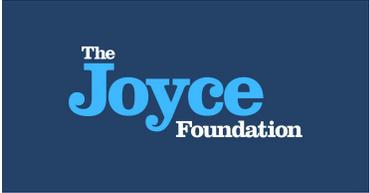
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## DECEMBER LUNCH & LEARN

### New Research Examining the Racial and Socioeconomic Disparities in Violence during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Recent data suggest that interpersonal violence increased to historic levels in many U.S. Cities during the coronavirus pandemic in patterns that may have been influenced and exacerbated by underlying disparities. This webinar discussion will preview the researchers' findings alongside observations from those working on the ground in two of the selected cities and examine the implications of these findings on policy and practice.

Friday, December 10, 2021  
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm  
Online



The  
**Joyce**  
Foundation

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## VOICES OF CHILD HEALTH IN CHICAGO REPORT

### Top 10 Youth Social Problems in Chicago in 2020

Chicago youth have dealt with ongoing social challenges that have continued to shape their daily interactions and experiences over the past 20 months



Voices of Child Health  
in Chicago

since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Some report highlights include: gun violence, racial disparities in health, and racism and discrimination were Chicago adults' top social concerns for youth in the city; gun violence was the number one social concern for the third straight year; and not enough job opportunities for teens was new to the top 10 list this year at number eight, right behind not enough job opportunities for parents.

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## DONATE

Supporting the work of SCY helps to grow the capacity of our team, resources and effort. To make a contribution, visit our [donation page](#).

## NEWSLETTER CONTENT

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

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

