



Letter from the Interim Executive Director

Greetings!

Today marks the first day of Black History Month, dedicated to celebrating and remembering the lives and history of Black Americans. The recent declaration of the former childhood home of Emmett Till honors the importance of Black history and the inauguration of Vice President Kamala Harris represents the accomplishments and achievements of Black Americans. But it must not be overlooked that honoring Black History and taking action for black lives should be at the forefront of our work throughout the year.

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

BLOG HIGHLIGHT

Goodbye to SCY

This week's blog is written by SCY Program Coordinator Kate Spitzer-Cohn. Kate has been with Lurie Children's for 8 years and her hard work and contributions in support of Chicago's youth will be greatly missed.

Goodbyes are hard, and sitting down to write this blog has been hard. I'm nearing the end of my time with SCY, and while I am excited for what's next and grateful for all the things I've learned and awesome people I've met, change is hard. And change in the midst of COVID...well, that's an extra layer of hard.



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ONLINE WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITY

The Interplay Between Environmental Exposures and Mental Health Outcomes

There is growing evidence that the environment can play an important role in mental health – yet research into the effects of environmental stressors rarely focuses on behavioral and mental health outcomes. This virtual workshop will bring together experts in mental health and environmental health research to explore emerging research on the relationships, harmful or beneficial, between environmental factors and mental health.

Tuesday, February 2, 2021 and
Wednesday, February 3, 2021
9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Online



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COVID-19

Lessons Learned by Leadership

From process and regulatory changes, to shifts in funding and care modalities, the pandemic has forced leaders and their teams to adapt and innovate. Although the end COVID-19 is not yet in sight, the past year has provided several lessons to consider as we enter 2021. Attend this panel-style webinar to hear healthcare executive leaders and Maria Samot, Senior Vice President of Content at Relias: reflect on critical aspects of the pandemic; discuss key learnings from 2020; and forecast challenges and opportunities ahead.

Thursday, February 4, 2021
9:00 am – 10:00 am
Online

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IMPROVE HEALTH EQUITY AMONG YOUR CLIENTS AND STAFF

Join the New Collaborative

Historically marginalized communities continue to face disproportionate challenges around access to quality behavioral health care. How we prioritize access to care and type of treatment offered are often influenced by bias and impact quality of care. National Council is kicking off a six-month program called the Health Equity ECHO Learning Collaborative to engage with other health care provider organizations through didactic presentations on key issues and

discussion around real cases to improve health equity within their organization.

Application Deadline
Friday, February 5, 2021
10:59 pm
Online

NATIONAL COUNCIL
FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

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VICARIOUS TRAUMA

Webinar

The [Illinois Collaboration on Youth](#) Vicarious Trauma Training addresses trauma and its impact on those in caring professions. Participants will discuss the "caring traumas" and learn how to identify and address the signs and symptoms of each. Additionally, participants will contextualize these concepts by examining the systemic issues that can contribute to them.

Tuesday, February 9, 2021
11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Online



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COVID-19 VACCINE WEBINAR SERIES

Webinar 1

Join the [National Council](#) in their first event in the new COVID-19 vaccine-related webinar series. This webinar will offer updates regarding the latest vaccination news, a Q&A session to respond to participants' inquiries and boots-on-the-ground insights from the provider operations perspective.

Tuesday, February 9, 2021
12:00 pm
Online

NATIONAL COUNCIL
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TRAUMA, RACE AND EQUITY

Ad Hoc Committee

[Illinois Childhood Trauma Coalition](#) is excited to launch the Trauma,

Race and Equity Ad Hoc Committee this month. The first planning meeting will be chaired by Reshma Desai from Illinois HEALS. Please contact reshma.desai@illinois.gov if you would like to join this planning call or if you would like additional information about the committee.

Tuesday, February 16, 2021
10:00 am
Online



RACIAL INEQUITY IN HEALTHCARE

Virtual Meeting

In 2003, the [Institute of Medicine](#) published a report describing the need to increase the proportion of underrepresented minority groups in the health-care workforce, integrate cross-cultural education into health-care training and more. By attending this session, you will learn to understand the effects of socioeconomic factors, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and other patient characteristics on health inequalities and identify ways to mitigate them in your own practice or organization, understand the components of policies and practices that have been shown to contribute to inclusive workplace environments, and enhance recruitment, development, advancement and retention of women and minorities in the healthcare workforce, and more.



Friday, February 18, 2021
8:00 am – 9:00 am
Online

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ADVOCATING FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS

The Medical Forensic Exam and Updates on the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program

This webinar will cover important principles of the medical forensic exam from an advocacy perspective, the role of a forensic examiner in responding to sexual assault patients and other victims of violence, and updates on the implementation of legislative changes to the Sexual Assault Survivors Emergency Treatment Act (SASETA). To RSVP, please email specialevents@atg.state.il.us by Weds, Feb 17, 2021.

Tuesday, February 23, 2021
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Online



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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

