



Letter from the Executive Director

Greetings!

Over the past week, the world around us has been changing. While there is hope and optimism as COVID-19 cases are steadily declining and mask mandates are being lifted, there has also been tragic violence abroad and at home. With these constant changes, SCY aims to continue being a source of information and support for our partners. Our team wants to know how we can support our partners in such an uncertain world. We invite you to complete our annual survey (shared below in this month's newsletter) or email scy@luriechildrens.org with ideas and recommendations so that we can remain driven in our work and partnerships in public health and violence prevention.

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

FEATURED ARTICLE: UJIMA: YOUTH-LED RESEARCH REPORT RELEASE AND INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION

Changing the Beat of Mental Health

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, [Communities United](#) and Youth Leaders of Ujima Project recently hosted a successful event featuring a panel of experts on new research lead by young men of color shows that, for their peers, the normalization of trauma and systemic inequity is leading to worsening mental health. This hybrid event on February 21 had over 170 attendees and highlighted that given their lived experience, young men of color are best equipped to research their experiences with mental health within their communities and make recommendations for effective change. A key finding of the report is that the majority of participants feel that they have no safe outlets within the systems intended to support them, sharing that they are more often a source of trauma than of healing. Other findings include:

- 66% of young men of color report that they are facing challenges

with their mental health

- Young men of color see a deep connection between systemic inequities and mental health, and often internalize the blame
- Trauma is often normalized for young men of color

[FULL REPORT](#)

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[SCY'S BLOG](#)

[EVENT CALENDAR](#)

SHIFT WEBINAR SERIES PART 3

Cognitive Signs and Symptoms and How To Mitigate

This is the third webinar in a 6-part series addressing secondary trauma and traumatic stress to help law enforcement, prosecutors, and other investigative personnel identify, reduce, and address the traumatic impact of their work in combating child sexual exploitation. This webinar will focus on the cognitive signs and symptoms of stress and share specialized resiliency tools and coping strategies to help professionals combat traumatic stress and develop personalized tools to help alleviate the effects of trauma.

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Online



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SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH PART 1

Screening for Patient Social Risks in Integrated Care Settings

Individuals experiencing co-occurring physical health, behavioral health and social determinants of health needs continue to face significant inequities based on racial, ethnic and economic challenges across all care settings. Join this event to hear from subject matter experts and learn more about integrating social care into the delivery of general health, mental health and substance use treatment services.

Thursday, March 3, 2022

2:00 pm

Online (via Zoom)

NATIONAL COUNCIL
for Mental Wellbeing

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SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH PART 2

Integrated Care Screening Tools & Implementation Considerations

Unequal access to health and social services and supports leaves some people more vulnerable to physical and mental illness or disease, creating inequitable health outcomes. Partnerships between integrated health care organizations and social services organizations are a key strategy to address health inequities and improve the overall health and wellbeing of vulnerable people and populations. Join this event to hear from subject matter experts and learn more about integrating social care into the delivery of general health, mental health and substance use treatment services.

Thursday, March 17, 2022

1:00 pm

Online (via Zoom)

NATIONAL COUNCIL
for Mental Wellbeing

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SHIFT WEBINAR SERIES PART 4

Emotional Signs and Symptoms and How To Mitigate

This is the fourth webinar in a 6-part series addressing secondary trauma and traumatic stress to help law enforcement, prosecutors, and other investigative personnel identify, reduce, and address the traumatic impact of their work in combating child sexual exploitation. This webinar will focus on the emotional signs and symptoms of stress and share specialized resiliency tools and coping strategies to help professionals combat traumatic stress and develop personalized tools to help alleviate the effects of trauma.

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Online



[LEARN MORE](#)

SOCIAL WORKERS AS FRONTLINE WORKERS IN THE PANDEMIC OF SOCIAL AND RACIAL INJUSTICES

Virtual Presentation

Please join the [Jane Addams College of Social Work](#) for this presentation by Anjanette Young, MSW, LCSW, a JACSW alumna who has worked with individuals, children, and families in the Chicago area, and has risen to recent prominence as an unflinching activist and advocate for reform

related to the conduct of police raids. From her experience as a social work practitioner and a survivor of police violence, Ms. Young will speak about the critical role social workers play as frontline responders.

Wednesday, March 30, 2022
4:00 pm – 5:15 pm
Online (via Zoom)

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ANNUAL SURVEY

Please Take the SCY Annual Survey

SCY conducts a survey every year to assess its strategies, activities, communication, and partner resources. The questionnaire will take less than 20 minutes to complete. After completing the survey, you will have a chance to enter a raffle for a \$50 gift card! We hope you can provide us with this important feedback.



[SURVEY](#)

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

