



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Strengthening,

In what seems to be an unfortunate stream of gun violence in our country, the last two holidays were no exception. A Juneteenth celebration in Willowbrook, IL ended in a mass shooting and the use of ghost guns in Philadelphia was used to carry out another just before the Fourth of July. This week, we also remembered the lives of the victims and survivors of the Highland Park shooting occurring last Independence Day. In addition to ongoing violence taking place in historically underserved communities in Chicago - this tragically just barely scratches the surface. Clear efforts are being made at the state and local levels, but we still have a long way to go. We encourage our violence prevention partners to remain unwavering in their efforts and continue collaborating to help build cities, states, and a country we can all live in more freely.

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

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Minority Mental Health Awareness Month

Disability Pride Month

July 12
Malala Day

July 18
Nelson Mandela Day

July 24
International Self-Care Day

June 26
National Disability Independence Day

GRANT WRITING 101

Virtual Event

This introductory session is designed for nonprofit staff, board members, and volunteers with little or no experience

writing a grant proposal. Participants will learn how to discern if a funding opportunity is a good fit for their organizations, about the difference between public and private sector grants, about the current trends in grantmaking, and more.



Illinois
Collaboration
on Youth

Tues, July 11 | 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Online (via Zoom)

[LEARN MORE](#)

CUTTING THROUGH THE CHAOS

Reframing Public Health

In this [Dialogue4Health](#) Web Forum, the presenter will dive into framing strategies that advocates can use to effectively communicate about public health, with examples of how to talk about health equity in conservative contexts, how to rebuild vaccine confidence, and other timely topics.



Tues, July 11 | 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM
Online (via Zoom)

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MORE](#)

NONPROFIT OPERATIONS AND SYSTEMS

Webinar

This virtual workshop from [Forefront](#) provides an overview of the foundational components of operational excellence - effective teams, integrated technology systems, and efficient workflow - providing participants with a vision of what it means to operate at the highest levels to achieve program outcomes.



Weds, July 12 | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Online (via Zoom)

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PRACTICAL STEPS TO UNDERSTAND AND ADVANCE ALLYSHIP

Social Justice Leadership Academy Learning Series Event

In this [National Council for Mental Wellbeing](#) event, participants will explore the concept of allyship and how those seeking to advance diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging within their workplace can improve their allyship efforts. Discuss and receive practical tips on how to better engage in self-reflection, identify and avoid performative allyship and create team environments rooted in humility and growth.

NATIONAL COUNCIL
for Mental Wellbeing

HEALTHY MINDS • STRONG COMMUNITIES

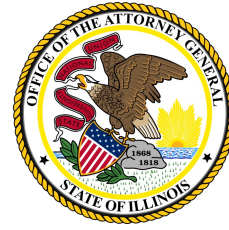
Weds, July 19 | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM
Online (via Zoom)

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FIREARM RESTRAINING ORDER

Webinar

This webinar presented by the [Illinois Attorney General's Office](#) will cover who may seek a Firearm Restraining Order (FRO), what the FRO prohibits, and the procedure to obtain both an emergency and a plenary FRO. It is designed for individuals who encounter victims of violent crime throughout the judicial system, including court staff, crime victim advocates, service providers, and prosecutors. Individuals from other community organizations, mental health providers, municipalities, and schools are welcome to attend.



Thurs, July 20 | 10:00 AM - 11:30 PM
Virtual (via Zoom)

[LEARN MORE](#)

AVAILABILITY OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR CHICAGO PARENTS

Voice of Child Health in Chicago Report



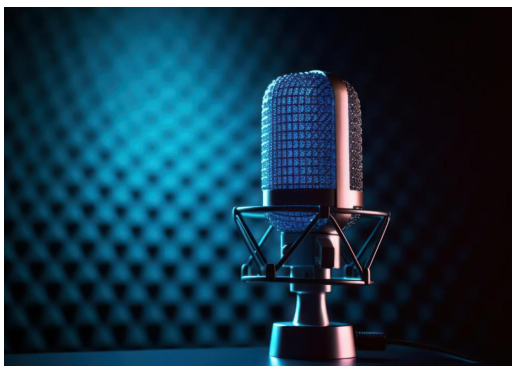
Voices of Child Health
in Chicago

[LEARN MORE](#)

In this month's report from [Voices of Child Health in Chicago](#), in partnership with the [Patrick M. Magoon Institute for Healthy Communities at Lurie Children's](#), researchers explore parent perceptions of available resources within their communities. The report highlights include: among all community resources, parents reported the highest access to healthcare clinics followed by parks, pharmacies, and libraries; access to recreation resources such as parks and recreational programming differed by parent race and ethnicity; and more.

CALLING ALL YOUTH LEADERS

Podcast Project Interest Form



[LEARN MORE](#)

Do you know of youth ages 16-20 interested in expressing their thoughts about community issues? Do they have an interest in podcasting? SCY is working on a grant-funded podcasting project to promote narrative change and healing. We are hoping to provide an opportunity for youth in communities most affected by gun violence to build capacity and have an experience where they can expand their professional skills, while telling the stories that are important to them. Youth leaders will be a core part of the recordings which will be focused on topics related to resilience, health equity, mental health access and more.

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 monthly update, please send an email to Operations Specialist [Kirstin Grabski](#).



Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago | 225 E. Chicago Ave, Chicago, IL 60611

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