Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Strengthening,

The recent immigrant and refugee crisis in Chicago has overwhelmed social service agencies and likely will continue over the next few weeks. People across the city have stepped up to help as much as possible, even when resources and supports in their own communities are scarce. For those still looking to help, there are several agencies collecting donations and food, and anyone can purchase critical items such as those on the Migrant Relief Drive Amazon Wish List that Chicago Refugee Coalition and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago have put together to provide needed supplies directly to the migrant families. Lurie Children’s is also sending out their Mobile Health Unit to Chicago Police Districts on Tuesdays and Wednesdays over the coming weeks to assist with basic health care and immunization needs. We must continue to work together and provide as much support as we can to all communities affected by this crisis and create opportunities for youth and families to not only survive but to thrive.

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
Together, everyone can fight for a country where every person can live a life free from gun violence. Join BUILD, Inc. on Wear Orange Day for a march that will end at BUILD Headquarters with a community pop-event with basketball, youth softball, music performances, snacks & games for the entire family. Volunteers are also still needed.

Fri, June 2 | 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Michele Clark High School, 5101 West Harrison Street, Chicago, IL 60644
LEARN MORE

ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC SAFETY CONFERENCE
Hybrid Event

Join Access Living for a free conference that will provide a space for institutions of higher education, community-based organizations, and people with disabilities and their families who have been impacted by the criminal system. Attendees will hear discussion on issues related to experiences with law enforcement, correctional institutions, and the importance of disability-centered community-based support.

Sat, June 3 | 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Virtual (via Zoom) OR In-Person
(Northwestern Pritzker Law School Center for Racial and Disability Justice, 375 E. Chicago Avenue, Chicago 60611)
LEARN MORE

JOIN TEAM STRENGTHENING CHICAGO'S YOUTH
10th Annual Race Against Gun Violence

Join us and be a part of the 10th Annual Strides for Peace Race Against Gun Violence (RAGV)! The RAGV celebrates the life-changing work of community organizations and provides a dynamic platform for people who care about ending gun violence to connect and get involved. Registration is open with various options to participate including:

- 8K
- 5K
- 2-Mile Walk
- Tots for Peace Sprint
- Virtually

Be sure to sign up to race and select "Strengthening Chicago's Youth " as your organization in the dropdown of the "Add Details" section on the registration page. There is an option to fundraise only for Strengthening Chicago's Youth as well.

Sat, June 3 | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Grant Park (Upper Hutchinson Field), 200 E. Balbo Drive, Chicago, IL 60601
REGISTER HERE
DONATE HERE
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The More You Know, the More You Grow

This ICOY training will explore and engage participants in the “two heads are better than one” model of community partnerships! Together we will discuss the power of collaboration and how it can lead to positive results such as thriving families and sustainable communities. Be prepared to identify potential partners in the community and ways to access their broad range of supports and services.

Mon, June 5 | 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Virtual (via Zoom)

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CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Webinar

The Illinois Attorney General's Office is hosting additional webinars designed for victim service providers, community partners, and members of the public who may be interested in learning more about the program. Over the past few years, the office has worked to expand access for victims and update the program to better respond to victims. Topics to be covered include the new compensation limits, the expanded application window, and changes to applicant eligibility.

Weds, June 7 | 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Virtual (via Zoom)

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CASEY LIFE SKILLS

Virtual Training

Please join ICOY for this Casey Life skills training, developed by Casey Family Programs, which teaches youth providers how to use life skills assessments with youth in homeless and transitioning youth programs. Casey assessments also have application in a variety of other youth service programs including basic centers, street outreach programs, education outreach programs, and other positive youth development programs.

Thurs, June 8 | 10:30 AM - 2:00 PM
Virtual (via Zoom)

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BEST PRACTICES FOR SUPPORTING AND AFFIRMING LGBTQI+ YOUTH

Updates from SAMHSA and the Field

Hosted by the National Council for Mental Wellbeing with experts from the field, this
webinar will provide an overview of key scientific updates and implications for clinical care, public policy, and empowering families to advocate for their LGBTQI+ youth. The sessions will give mental health and substance use treatment providers the knowledge and resources to implement evidence-based and intersectional approaches with LGBTQI+ youth and to ultimately support these youth and their families in reaching their human potential.

YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOUSING INSTABILITY 101
Two-Day Webinar

This ICOY two-day webinar provides supervisory and front-line staff working in DHS-funded homeless youth programs with the essential information they need to ensure effective practice and compliance with the program’s regulations. Participants will learn how to best engage homeless youth and create the environments and programs that most effectively meet their needs.

CYP PEACE STREETS
Health & Resource Fair

Join Chicago Youth Programs (CYP) for a free community event designed to encourage healthy lifestyle choices, provide physicals and emotional wellness support, promote safety, and make connections to valuable resources. There will also be a community town hall meeting to share thoughts in an open forum discussion about safety, well-being/health priorities and needs, and express opinions about other things that are concerning your family and community.

BEYOND A LIVABLE WAGE
The Right to Thrive

Join Alternatives as they redefine the concept of a thriving wage and amplify the voices and experiences of workers and job seekers seeking to thrive in Illinois. Together with attendees, they will reflect on the systemic barriers and inequalities that prevent workers from thriving and discuss
TRAUMA TALKS

Complex Trauma & Human Trafficking

During this session, ICOY will explore how human trafficking turns into a long history of complex trauma. There will also be a discussion on the trauma bonds that can be formed when an individual develops positive feelings with their trafficker. Attendees will also explore the red flags of trafficking, the stages of trauma bonding, and the most vulnerable victims.

Thu, June 15 | 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Virtual

CHILDHOOD INJURY PREVENTION CONVENTION

PrevCon

The Safe Kids Worldwide Childhood Injury Prevention Convention (PrevCon) is one of the largest gatherings of safety professions in the world dedicated solely to the field of childhood injury prevention. It brings together leading experts, advocates, academics, and partners to share best practices and experiences with the aim of increasing collective impact. At Safe Kids, there is a focus on Equity in Child Safety. A commitment to equity is critical to achieving its mission to keep kids safe from preventable injuries. At PrevCon 2023, attendees will continue exploring strategies to identify and engage with communities with increased risk and those who have been historically underserved.

Sun, July 23 THROUGH Weds, July 26
Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, 201 Waterfront Street, National Harbor, MD 20745

NEWSLETTER CONTENT

To have an event or article included in SCY’s monthly update, email Operations Specialist Kirstin Grabski.