Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Strengthening,

The recent announcement of a new federal Office of Gun Violence Prevention is a significant step by the Biden administration toward addressing the pressing issue of gun violence in the United States. We hope to see this office focus on implementing comprehensive policies, conducting and funding research, and promoting initiatives aimed at reducing gun violence and ensuring public safety. The establishment of this new office reflects the administration's commitment to finding effective solutions to this critical problem and we look forward to seeing where this work will lead.

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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Emotional Wellness Month

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

National Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept 15–Oct 15)

October 9
Indigenous Peoples’ Day

October 10
World Mental Health Day

October 11
National Coming Out Day

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THRIVING THURSDAYS

Grief & Loss Support Group

This event every Thursday with BUILD, Inc., will be a safe space to connect with others and process loss. Attendees will also learn ways to support themselves and others.
IDHS TRAUMA TRAINING
The Impact of Trauma on Youth

During this Illinois Collaboration on Youth (ICOY) training, attendees will explore and understand the impact of trauma on youth and clients. This will include learning about ACEs, brain development, and common childhood trauma responses and behaviors.

Weds, Oct 6 | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Online (via Zoom)

WORKING WITH LGBTQIA+ YOUTH
Webinar

Come out, come out whoever you are! Please join ICOY for an engaging training on coming out, leaning in, and everything in between with LGBTQIA+ youth. This interactive workshop will help attendees know how to offer support to the "Alphabet" by identifying and discussing the unique stressors and needs of the community.

Tues, Oct 10 | 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Online (via Zoom)

SCY PANEL AND WORKSHOP
Narrative Change and Healing: The Power of Poetry

Disinvested communities and youth are not only faced with being exposed to trauma but finding ways to heal from it. A medium like poetry is powerful and can create compelling stories about the contradictions of outside narratives and reality. It also opens opportunities for resilience, truth, and empowerment.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
- Understand the importance of poetry and narrative change
- Understand the role of poetry in community and individual healing
- Develop the power of imagination and creativity

Thurs, Oct 12 | 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
225 E. Chicago Ave.
11th Floor Conference Center
Chicago, IL 60611
IDHS TRAUMA TRAINING

Vicarious Trauma

During this ICOY training session, attendees will review the signs, symptoms, and risk factors of vicarious trauma. Participants will explore the stress responses that can be experienced and the best ways to support service providers.

Thurs, Oct 12 | 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Online (via Zoom)

LEARN MORE

SOCIAL JUSTICE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY LEARNING SERIES

Supporting LGBTQ+ Communities

This National Council for Mental Wellbeing session will review terminology, incidences, and lived experiences of those within the LGBTQ+ community. Participants will develop skills on how to cultivate a safe space for transgender and gender non-binary (TGNB) individuals in both professional and private environments. Speakers will additionally discuss how to increase knowledge and debunk misconceptions and biases as they relate to the LGBTQ+ community.

Weds, Oct 18 | 12:00 PM
Online (via Zoom)

LEARN MORE

BECOMING GRIEF INFORMED

Support After a Homicide

With the significant rise in sudden and traumatic deaths, it is crucial that professionals are prepared to support the unique needs of children and families on their grief journey. Join to learn to support and respond to children, families, and communities impacted by deaths of people from homicide specifically. This sessions with Missing Pieces will feature experts and include a panel discussion of family members who have experienced the death of a loved one.

Thurs, Oct 26 | 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM
The Carlisle
435 E. Butterfield Road
Lombard, IL 60148

LEARN MORE

2023 CHILD MALTREATMENT SYMPOSIUM

In-Person and Virtual Attendance Options

The Protective Services Team at Ann &
Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago invites all professionals whose work involves interaction with child abuse and neglect to the 2023 annual symposium. This is a continuing education event designed to educate physicians and professionals from all disciplines who care for children. Objectives include reviewing the evidence for public benefits as a prevention strategy for child maltreatment, reviewing important components of police investigations in child abuse investigations, and more.

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**NCEAS 2024 Annual Conference**

The National Collaborative for Education to Address the Social Determinants of Health Annual Conference is a collaborative forum where educators, students, and leaders can come together to share their work on social determinants of health. This year the conference theme is "The Power of Participatory Learning: Creating Transformative Learning Experiences in SDOH". Conference submissions are open, submit workshop proposals and/or abstracts now.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**A Gathering of Communities**

Communities United and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago are pleased to announce the A Gathering of Communities event! This year, the event is focusing on way to support communities across Chicago while seeking to heal through addressing generational inequities with the goal of working toward racial equity and transformative healing. Be on the lookout for additional information in the next few weeks.

**CHICAGO'S INAUGURAL GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION EXPO**

Presented by Strides for Peace

The goal of the Expo is to serve as a vehicle that harnesses the collective impact of community organizations and service providers to bridge gaps that exist in accessibility and implementation. Join
Strides for Peace for an upcoming Lunch and Learn on October 21 complete with a presentation, how to utilize the platform and benefits of the expo.

Sat, Nov 11 | 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
UIC Dorin Forum
725 W. Roosevelt Road
Chicago, IL 60607

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.