



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Strengthening,

As [gun deaths decrease](#) here in Chicago, many living in the city still struggle to feel safe despite positive violence reduction efforts. A recent [WBEZ article](#) highlighted a study that concluded: "56% of Black and Latino Chicagoans had witnessed at least one shooting before turning 40." This is wholly unacceptable. While we applaud the efforts and hard work of violence prevention stakeholders across the city, it remains clear that we have so much more work to do. We will work diligently with our partners to build capacity and change systems in the hopes of continuing to see gun deaths and violence decline, while also improving investments in our communities - something that Chicagoans of ALL communities deserve.

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

[SCY'S WEBSITE](#)

[JOB POSTINGS](#)

[FUNDING OPPS](#)

[SCY'S BLOG](#)

[EVENT CALENDAR](#)

National Suicide Prevention Month

National Self-Care Awareness Month

National Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept 15- Oct 15)

September 4
Labor Day

September 10
World Suicide Prevention Day

September 21
International Peace Day

UNDERSTANDING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Harnessing the Power to Transform Individuals and Communities

This module from [Illinois Collaboration on Youth](#) (ICOY) provides participants the opportunity to ground themselves within the history and theory that have led to positive youth development. Core principles and



Illinois
Collaboration
on Youth

Weds, Sept 6 | 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

concepts of youth development to create organizational and community change are offered in contrast to the traditional youth services model. Participants have the opportunity to explore practical applications of the model through small group work.

Online (via Zoom)

[LEARN MORE](#)

MANAGING TOXIC STRESS AND BURNOUT

7 Types of Rest

The work being done in overdose prevention has always been difficult, but added stressors brought on by the pandemic, natural disasters, and systemic racism have caused unprecedented levels of toxic stress and burnout. Hosted by [Public Health Institute](#), hear from Brooke Briggance, a certified trainer in Mental Health First Aid on the seven types of rest you can implement to manage stress and burnout.



Weds, Sept 13 | 1:30 PM
Online (via Zoom)

[LEARN MORE](#)

YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOUSING INSTABILITY

Two-Day Webinar

This event will provide supervisory and front-line staff working in DHS-funded Homeless Youth programs with 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.



Weds, Sept 20 & Thurs, Sept 21
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Online (via Zoom)

[LEARN MORE](#)

IDHS TRAUMA TRAINING

Trauma Informed Supervision

This training is designed for organizational supervisors to discuss our role and impact. As supervisors, we must recognize that our staff are clients of our organizations and experience workplace trauma. During this training, Trauma Informed Supervision will highlight tools for effectively building relationships, managing conflict, and communication skills within teams.



Thurs, Sept 21 | 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Online (via Zoom)

[LEARN MORE](#)

SOCIAL INFLUENCERS OF CHILD HEALTH SUMMIT

Poverty and Child & Adolescent Health: Advancing Health Equity in an Inequitable Nation

A child is born into poverty in America once every minute. Children of color, children under the age of five, and children of single mothers are the most affected. This event is a solutions-focused convening of national and local experts, thought leaders, and stakeholders from different sectors. Together, the [Patrick M. Magoon Institute for Healthy Communities](#), speakers, and attendees will dive into the root causes of poverty and how they impact outcomes for children, youth, and their families. Attendees will leave energized with fresh approaches to their work and an expanded network of partners to help scale impact.



Unintentional Injury Prevention
Initiatives

Food, Activity and Nutrition
Initiatives



Tues, Sept 26 | 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
225 E. Chicago Avenue | 11th Floor Conference Center
Chicago, IL 60611

[LEARN MORE](#)

DISTINCT & UNIQUE

Setting Your Organization Apart from Other Grant Applicants

Imagine a grant officer sitting in front of the stack of proposals she received today. How do you ensure that she forwards your proposal for review? Imagine a grant reader who has two days to review a dozen grant proposals. How do you increase your chances that he will read past your executive summary? Imagine several organizations similar to yours submitting proposals similar to yours.



Illinois
Collaboration
on Youth

Tues, Sept 26 | 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Online (via Zoom)

[LEARN MORE](#)

IDHS SPECIAL TRAUMA TOPIC TRAINING

Trauma, Youth Mental Health, and Suicide Prevention

During this session, attendees will explore ways to support youth through a trauma-informed lens, while also processing strategies to strengthen the protective factors of youth considering suicide. Participants will also identify the unique characteristics of youth and the relevance to suicide and self-harm behavior, risk factors, and warning signs.



Illinois
Collaboration
on Youth

Tues, Sept 27 | 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Online (via Zoom)

[LEARN MORE](#)

BUILDING A FUTURE WITHOUT GUN VIOLENCE

Chicagos

Hosted by [Brady United](#), join community leaders, front-line stakeholders, and local advocates for this event to learn about equitable, data-driven approaches to reduce the flow of crime guns in our cities. The Chicago summit will feature opportunities to learn about solutions that target the supply of firearms into our communities, while also focusing on healing and wellness. Together, lift up ideas, share experiences, and develop solutions to build the safer future we all want and deserve.



Fri, Sept 29 | 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
South Shore Cultural Center
7059 S. Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60649

[LEARN MORE](#)

CALLING ALL YOUTH LEADERS

Podcast Project Interest Form

A graphic titled "Youth Podcasters Wanted" with a yellow lightning bolt icon. It features a photo of two young women sitting on a bench and talking into microphones. The text includes: "Are you: interested in podcasting? comfortable discussing community issues like gun violence, trauma and community healing?" and "We are looking for youth: 16-20 years old, living in Chicago, participants will receive a stipend for their time". A QR code is present with the text "Scan The QR Code to Apply!".

Youth Podcasters Wanted

Are you:

- interested in podcasting?
- comfortable discussing community issues like gun violence, trauma and community healing?

We are looking for youth:

- 16-20 years old
- living in Chicago
- participants will receive a stipend for their time

Scan The QR Code to Apply!

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.

[LEARN MORE](#)

VOICES OF CHILD HEALTH IN CHICAGO REPORT AUGUST 2023

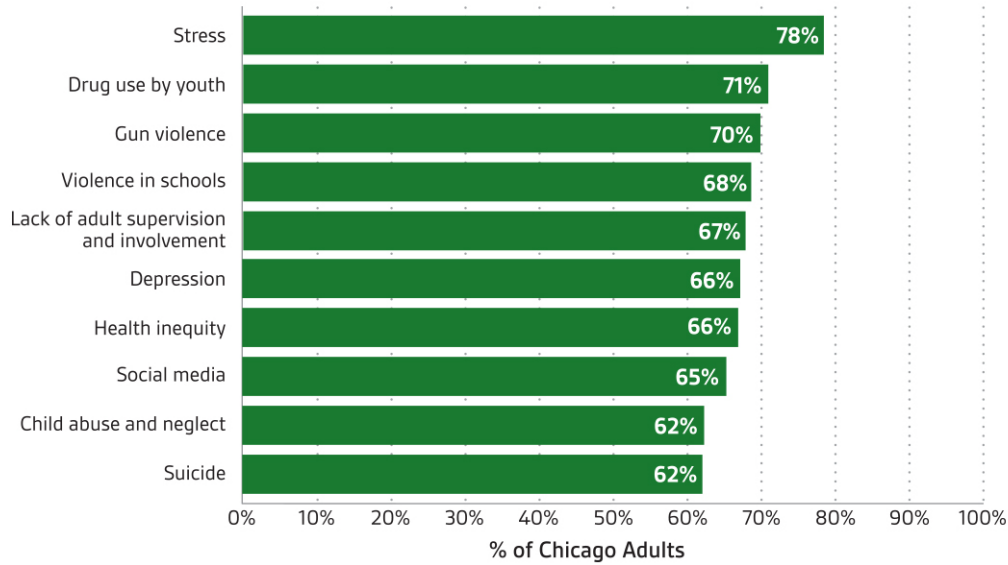
Top 10 Child Health Concerns

Children and adolescents in Chicago face various challenges that can impact their physical and mental health and their social well-being. To understand which of these challenges adults consider most concerning for youth health, Voices of Child Health in Chicago teamed up with the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) again on the 2022 Healthy Chicago Survey Jr. Report highlights include:

- Stress was the top concern for youth health, with 78% of Chicago adults reporting it as a great challenge for youth this year. Stress has been a top concern since 2018

- 68% of Chicago adults considered violence in schools a big problem facing youth health
- High levels of concern for youth health were reported by women, parents, and people of color

Percent of Chicago adults who considered each to be a "big problem"



Voices of Child Health in Chicago,
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, 2023



**FULL
REPORT**

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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