



## Letter from the Executive Director

Dear SCY Partners,

As we navigate the distressing realities of recent shooting violence and accidental deaths in Chicago schools, homes, and across our nation, we must confront the urgent need for action. In the wake of these tragedies, we must redouble our commitment to violence prevention initiatives and the importance of community outreach. By fostering open dialogue, providing resources, and advocating for policy changes that are informed and led by people with lived experience, we can work together to stem the tide of violence and safeguard our communities, especially our children.

Leslie Helmcamp  
Executive Director  
Strengthening Chicago's Youth (SCY)  
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

February  
Black History Month

February 10  
Lunar New Year

February 14  
Valentine's Day

February 17  
Random Acts of Kindness Day

February 20  
World Day of Social Justice

## UNDERSTANDING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

### Harnessing the Power to Transform Individuals and Communities

This module provides participants the opportunity to ground themselves within the history and theory that have led to positive youth development. Core principles and concepts of youth development as a model 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.



Illinois  
Collaboration  
on Youth

Weds, Feb 28 | 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM  
Online (via Zoom)

LEARN MORE

## SAVE THE DATE

### BUILD's Annual Art Show

BUILD youth are constantly creating art: to process trauma and heal, to calm racing minds, to connect with mentors and peers, to explore creative interests and unlock new ones, to express things they don't yet have words for.

Each year in the BUILD Art Show their work joins additional donated pieces from community artists, attracting hundreds of buyers and guests from in and out of state and raising thousands of dollars for BUILD art programs.

**BUILD**  
HOPE · LIVES · FUTURES

Sat, March 2 | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
BUILD, Inc.  
5100 W. Harrison  
Chicago, IL 60644

[LEARN MORE](#)

## SAVE THE DATE

### 3rd Annual University of Michigan Injury Prevention Research Symposium

This event at the University of Michigan Injury Prevention Center will be for researchers, staff, post-doctoral fellows, and students to disseminate research, facilitate new collaborations, and explore new ideas for injury prevention research. Explore the exciting world of injury prevention, forge valuable connections, and hear pilot research outcomes.

**M**  
INJURY PREVENTION  
CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Tues, March 5 | 8:00 AM - 1:30 PM (EST)  
Palmer Commons, University of Michigan  
100 Washtenaw Ave.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

[LEARN MORE](#)

## VOICES OF CHILD HEALTH IN CHICAGO REPORT

### Most Illinois Parents Do Not Ask About Firearms in the Home



Voices of Child Health  
in Chicago

Dangers that firearms in the home present for children are more prominent than ever. In the latest report from Voices of Child Health in Chicago, parents were inquired about whether they have ever asked another parent about the presence of a firearm in the home. Report highlights include:

- Fewer than 4 in 10 parents report ever asking another parent about the presence of a firearm in their home.
- Parents from rural communities, mothers, older parents, and parents with less than a college degree were less likely to have asked about firearms in the home.
- Parents can make a New Year's resolution to always ask about the presence of firearms before their child goes to a home where they have not been before.

LEARN 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



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