

**MISSION:** To promote the safety, health, and success of Illinois' children, youth, and families by acting as a collective voice for policy and practice, and by connecting and strengthening the organizations that serve them.

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**ICOYOUTH.org**

# 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

December 2018 to December 2019

## 6 BIG THINGS

*We Accomplished in 2019*

- 1** Secured new funding for community providers, including a **5.9% rate increase** for child welfare providers & a **10% increase** to the CCBYS line item.
- 2** Hosted **3,400+ attendees** at various trainings, workshops & symposiums designed to bring information, knowledge & access to the field.
- 3** Presented a **snapshot of Medicaid billing readiness** among Illinois' behavioral health providers in a comprehensive survey report.
- 4** Selected as **lead grantee for a federal Regional Partnership Grant** to continue work building a national model for better serving families struggling with addiction.
- 5** Established the **ICOY Trauma Champions program**, empowering community leaders to deliver trauma training in a culturally relevant & sustainable way.
- 6** Facilitated a **public symposium** on the needs & experiences of girls & gender non-conforming youth in the juvenile justice system.

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

This has been an exciting and productive year at ICOY. We've stayed hyper-focused on our mission, putting in hard work to establish a state culture that values and invests in ensuring that all children, youth, and families are healthy, inter-generationally successful, and thriving toward their full potential.

**To illustrate what I mean, let me share with you several key milestones from the year:**

- **We started 2019 by representing providers serving children, youth, and families on the Transition Team for Governor-elect Pritzker**, helping to shape the priorities for the incoming administration, and we continue to ensure that community organizations have a voice at the table. One area we succeeded with this was in the passage of the Child Welfare Workforce Task Force and Human Services Contracting Task Force bills, which increase the visibility and representation of members from the private child welfare sector.
- **We welcomed our 94th member!** After the turmoil of the budget impasse, the ICOY coalition is strong and growing stronger. While community organizations continue to recover from the impasse, ICOY is committed to strengthening your ability to serve children, youth, and families. Relationships between workers and clients are at the heart of all that you do, so we expanded our training and technical assistance support, and advocated for funding to ensure that you can recruit and retain an effective workforce.
- **We responded to the ongoing expansion of Medicaid managed care** as the primary payor for services to address behavioral health and related services linked to positive health outcomes. We did this by assessing the need for system-wide technical assistance to help community providers successfully deliver and be paid for these crucial services, and advocating for the Governor to allocate \$5M in his FY2021 budget proposal to the creation of Illinois' first Medicaid Technical Assistance Center (MTAC).
- **We were awarded a federal grant, enabling us to start a second research project** organized by ICOY to help parents recover from addiction while keeping their children safely at home, all while advancing the evidence base for our field.

We will continue to support and strengthen your capacity in 2020, as you are the network that helps ensure ALL of Illinois' children, youth, and families thrive. We look forward to working with you in 2020!



**Andrea Durbin**  
Chief Executive Officer

## NEW EQUITY & ACCESS FUND SPOTLIGHT

A lack of consistent access to unrestricted funds is a real barrier for many organizations to participate as members of ICOY. When voices are excluded from our coalition, even unintentionally, our understanding of the challenges and experiences community organizations face is limited and our advocacy agenda suffers. *To ensure all of Illinois' children and youth are able to thrive, we must enable the community providers serving them to have representation.*

That's why ICOY's Board of Directors has taken the bold position this year that it is our responsibility to be more proactive in addressing this exclusion by establishing the Equity and Access Fund, to provide subsidized memberships for qualifying community-based organizations. **We are asking all ICOY members to help make our collective voice stronger, more inclusive, and better informed by making an additional annual contribution to the Equity and Access Fund.** See the member renewal form for more information.

# ICOY MEMBERSHIP SNAPSHOT IN 2019

ICOY members are part of a large & growing coalition of human service organizations that collectively represent a huge force in Illinois.

## SIZE OF COALITION



**94**

MEMBERS &  
PARTNERS



**14**

NEW MEMBERS  
IN 2019



**48%**

YOY GROWTH SINCE  
2016

## IMPACT & SCALE OF COALITION



**1.6M**

CHILDREN &  
INDIVIDUALS  
SERVED



**\$1.4B**

ECONOMIC  
IMPACT IN  
ILLINOIS

## WHY RENEW?

Being a member of ICOY offers the following key benefits:

### ADVOCACY

- ICOY advocates within the legislative & executive branches on behalf of members.
- Help shape practices & policies that improve outcomes for children & youth.

### REPRESENTATION

- ICOY attends meetings & serves on committees, acting as a voice for members working with the child welfare/juvenile justice systems & homeless/runaway youth.

### NETWORKING

- ICOY hosts member-exclusive events attended by high ranking state officials, politicians & peer organizations from across the state.

### LEARNING

- Receive emails with breaking news, analysis, funding opportunities & resources.
- ICOY offers 30% off customized trainings for your staff.

### VISIBILITY

- ICOY amplifies members' news & job openings via our website & social media.

# HOW ICOY LED THE WAY, STRENGTHENED THE NETWORK & IMPROVED OUTCOMES IN 2019

## MEDICAID TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER (MTAC) TEAM

To help Illinoisans access behavioral health services, this team supported providers' ability to bill Medicaid in the following ways:

- Ensured providers got paid for services, returning \$137,726 in denied claims.
- Acted as a Medicaid advocate, regularly attending committee meetings & providing comments on providers' behalf.
- Published a report on the Medicaid readiness of Illinois' human service providers, which found 60% were not ready to bill managed care in 2018.
- Spurred HFS to mend billing issues with the Family Support Program (FSP).

- Provided technical assistance to the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board & other youth serving organizations.
- Helped jurisdictions & violence-prevention organizations use data to reduce racial, ethnic disparities & align programming with their target populations.
- Formed capacity building partnerships with Chapin Hall & the Center for Children's Law & Policy to support system reform efforts.

## JUVENILE JUSTICE TEAM

To decrease Illinois' youth incarceration & improve reform efforts, this team helped agencies & community-based providers obtain resources in the following ways:

## TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE TEAM

To help youth heal from trauma, reduce disparities & prevent violence, this team strengthened the capacity of Illinois' human service organizations & systems to recognize & treat trauma in the following ways:

- Delivered a quarterly Trauma Training series, promoting a culturally competent understanding of trauma-informed care across Illinois.
- Provided capacity building to organizations & systems, formalizing a technical assistance structure that supports program participants & staff.
- Formed information sharing partnerships with trauma-focused leaders & community-led organizations.

- Provided technical assistance to CCBYS, IDHS Homeless Youth, Teen REACH & Community Youth Employment Programs.
- Hosted 100+ capacity-building trainings for DHS-funded prevention programs, reaching approximately 3,000 practitioners.
- Convened youth service program & state dept. staff in 20 state-wide meetings to help facilitate communication & improve implementation.

## PREVENTION & INTERVENTION TEAM

To prevent youth from entering the child welfare & juvenile justice systems, this team helped youth service agencies & community-based providers obtain critical resources in the following ways:

## REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP GRANT TEAM

To improve the well-being of children experiencing parental substance abuse, this team is building on our existing grant work to create a national family recovery model in the following ways:

- Received another 5-year federal Regional Partnership Grant to replicate our ongoing trial (in Northern Illinois) in East-Central Illinois.
- Improved family recovery & stability, serving 168 families—73% of which maintained abstinence post-treatment.
- Secured DCFS commitment to incorporate project work into Illinois' Family First Prevention Services Act implementation.

- New funding for community providers, including a 5.9% rate increase for child welfare providers & a 10% increase to the budget's CCBYS line item.
- Passage of the Child Welfare Workforce Task Force & Human Services Contracting Task Force.
- Joint advocacy to ensure that providers have the resources they need to accommodate the rising minimum wage & wage compression.

## POLICY TEAM

To ensure all children, youth & families have the tools to be successful, this team advocated for policies & resources that achieved the following legislative successes: