



Illinois
Collaboration
on Youth

Member Manual

**Taking advantage of your member benefits
& leveraging the impact of your coalition**



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YOUR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Below is a general overview of your benefits. Click a subheading to be redirected to more in-depth instructions about how to utilize that perk. If you have any questions regarding your membership, do not hesitate to contact ICOY Senior Manager of Communications & Outreach [Conor Van Santen](#).

Access to a Team Dedicated to Serving Your Policy Needs:

ICOY's Policy Team, which is made up of 4 full-time employees, works to further the interests of our members in everything they do. Whether it is championing a bill to improve service accessibility or connecting a member with a legislator to make their voice heard, the Policy Team can help out ICOY members with anything related to government and politics.

Additionally, state legislators often call upon policy team members, as well as others in ICOY's leadership, to testify to the challenges that face Youth Service Providers in public subject matter hearings and committee meetings.

Members may also join the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC), which meets with the Policy Team regularly to discuss the status of ICOY's policy and legislative agenda and to suggest ways to continue improving the systems that serve the youth of Illinois.

Opportunities to Cut Accreditation, Insurance, Interpretation Costs and more:

ICOY is pleased to partner with several different organizations to offer discounts on services that are essential for many of our members. These services include:

- A 25% discount on fees associated with becoming accredited with the Council on Accreditation, which can save members thousands of dollars' worth of expenses
- A 20% discount on the services of SavvyFi, an organization that helps eligible employees manage student debt through programs like Public Service Loan Forgiveness
- Resource packages through the Nonprofit Insurance Alliance
- A 30% discount on all ICOY trainings, including our ICOY CARES trainings
- Discounted grant writing support, training, projects planning, and general support for comprehensive grant programs through Elevate



- Discounted rates on on-Demand Interpretation Services with VOYCE (which can be integrated into applications such as Epic, Zoom, Cisco WebX, and more.)

Use of ICOY’s Job Board to Promote Open Positions at Your Organization:

ICOY members may submit up to 10 jobs per month to ICOY’s Member Job Board, which is located on our website. These postings stay online for 90 days or until the position is filled, whichever comes first.

The job board is updated regularly and serves as a career resource for social work students and faculty at institutions of higher learning across Illinois.

[Click here to submit job\(s\) for the board.](#)

Event Sharing in ICOY’s Weekly Newsletter and on Our Website:

With so much going on in the child welfare arena at any given time, ICOY is dedicated to getting the word out about member events taking place across Illinois.

Member organizations may submit events for promotion in ICOY’s Thursday newsletter.

Events will be included in the newsletter for a maximum of 2 weeks, and the submission deadline for inclusion in each week’s newsletter is Monday at 5 PM.

[Click here to submit an event for promotion.](#)

Networking and Professional Growth:

ICOY hosts regular in-person and virtual events for its members. These events serve to inform our members and provide valuable opportunities for members to meet and learn from one another.

Our monthly ICOY member calls also feature meaningful presentations from industry experts about topics of interest to our members. These calls ignite important conversations and provide an environment for our members to ask one another for advice, assistance, or support.

All upcoming events, including our monthly member calls, are listed on our calendar. [Click here to view to view it.](#)



A Virtual Space for Collaboration:

The ICOY Virtual Community serves as a space for providers to ask each other questions, share news about their organization's work, and to keep apprised of everything going on within ICOY.

Members enjoy full access to the Virtual Community. Breaking news, policy updates, and more are regularly shared in these member-exclusive channels.

To request access to the Virtual Community, [please fill out this form](#). From there, please [use this guide for help getting started](#).

For questions about this opportunity, email Communications and Outreach Manager, [Autumn Cavalco](#).

Updates Through Our Weekly Newsletter:

Every Thursday, ICOY sends out a newsletter chock-full of valuable information to our members.

These newsletters provide updates on happenings in Springfield, policy changes within state agencies, information on upcoming trainings, public health alerts, news on funding and grant opportunities, and much more.

To sign up for the newsletter, please email ICOY Senior Manager of Communications & Outreach [Conor Van Santen](#) with a list of email addresses that you would like to receive the newsletter.

ADVOCACY AND POLICY BENEFITS

We advocate within the state and federal government on your behalf. Our policy team proposes, monitors, analyzes, and moves legislation that affects children and youth. ICOY facilitates an open dialogue between public officials and private providers and convenes key stakeholders to shape practices and policies that improve outcomes for children and youth.

How You Can Access This Benefit:

1. Email ICOY Senior Policy Analyst [Cameron Zelaya](#) about becoming involved with the [Policy Advisory Committee \(PAC\)](#), a committee comprised of ICOY members who volunteer to help shape our legislative and policy agenda.
2. Check out [ICOY's Policy, Legislative and Advocacy Agenda](#) to learn more about the legislation ICOY is currently championing and allying on with its partners in the Illinois General Assembly and in Congress.
3. [Join our Quick Response Network \(QRN\)](#), a grassroots advocacy network where you'll receive action alert emails from ICOY requesting you to contact lawmakers or file witness slips with support or dissent on policy issues affecting the lives of children and their families. Email ICOY Senior Manager of Communications & Outreach [Conor Van Santen](#) to check that your organization has a QRN designee.
4. View our [map](#) of ICOY member sites and legislative districts.
5. Contact ICOY's Policy Team to discuss opportunities and get involved:
 - a. [Dr. Jennifer Roland](#), Director of Public Policy & Government Affairs
 - b. [Cameron Zelaya](#), Senior Policy Analyst
 - c. [Carlos Urquizo](#), Policy Analyst

NETWORKING AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

One of the most sought-after aspects of membership in an organization like ICOY is the ability to network and learn from other peers in the field. We are happy to provide several opportunities for this kind of growth.

ICOY is proud to host a virtual monthly member call that features presentations from leading industry experts and other professionals.



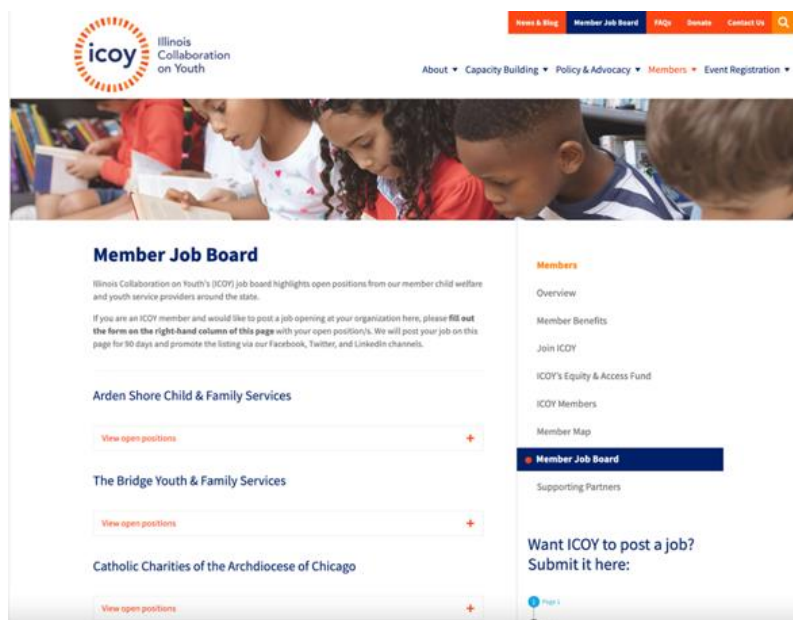
Examples of in-person events ICOY has hosted in the past include an annual conference, health care symposiums, YouthCare town halls, and more. For the most up-to-date list of upcoming events, [check out our calendar page](#).

JOB POSTINGS

ICOY lists our member’s job openings on our website and promotes them via social media channels for increased visibility.

How You Can Access This Benefit:

If you would like ICOY to post a job opening at your organization here, please [fill out this form](#) with your open position(s) or email Communications and Outreach Manager, [Autumn Cavalco](#). ICOY members may submit up to 10 jobs per month to ICOY’s Member Job Board, which is located on our website. These postings stay online for 90 days or until the position is filled, whichever comes first. We will post your job on this page for 90 days and promote the listing via our Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn channels.



COST-SAVING OPPORTUNITIES

ICOY organizations may take advantage of a broad variety of discounted services through their membership.



How to Get 25% Off on Council on Accreditation Fees:

1. Email Chief Development Officer [Sarah Beth Lardy](#) at Social Current and CC Communications & Outreach Manager [Autumn Cavalco](#) to take advantage of your discount.

How to Get Grant Support with Elevate:

1. Email [Jessica Culverhouse](#) to schedule an introductory meeting to discuss your current grants programs and the services they can provide for your organization

How to Get Interpretation Services with VOYCE:

1. ICOY Members are eligible to receive these services at a discounted rate. [Email Conor Van Santen](#) for more information on how to get started with Voyce.

How to Get Discounts on SavvyFi Services:

1. Email [Kevin Porath](#) at Savvyfi to schedule a consultation regarding the services they can offer your organization

How to Access Supplemental Resources Through the Nonprofit Insurance Alliance (NIA):

1. Check out NIA's on-demand webinar library and additional resources for your insurance broker [on ICOY's website](#)
2. Contact [Julie Bernhard](#) to arrange a meeting with NIA regarding insurance solutions

How to Claim 30% Off ICOY Training:

1. View our [scheduled trainings](#) for paid opportunities and enter code Member30 at checkout to receive a discount.
2. [Check out our ICOY CARES page](#) to see our current inventory of offered trainings and submit an inquiry form to get the ball rolling on a consultation and discounted trainings.

EVENT POSTINGS

Members of ICOY are [welcome to submit a request](#) for an upcoming event to be included in our weekly Thursday newsletter

Guidelines:



- Events will be included for two weeks, at maximum.
- The deadline to submit a request is Monday at 5:00 pm for Thursday inclusion. Requests submitted after the deadline will not be included until the following week.

ICOY VIRTUAL COMMUNITY

Our Virtual Community, built on the Slack messaging platform, offers members the opportunity to collaborate, connect, and share information across more than 10 topic-specific channels including: executive leadership, human resource professionals, fundraising and development, child welfare & youth service providers, and much more.

Sign up for the virtual community here.

Check out [this guide to get started](#) on Slack.

EMAIL UPDATES

Email is the primary form of communication between ICOY and our members. All members are eligible to receive our primary newsletter, the ICOY Thursday Update, which features breaking news, analysis, funding opportunities, and resources curated to be of special interest to our members.

How You Can Access This Benefit:

1. Email [Conor Van Santen](#) to get added to ICOY's Newsletter.

RESOURCES FOR IDHS & DCFS PROVIDERS

ICOY has open lines of communication with staff and leaders at IDHS and DCFS. We disperse information from both Departments to our members.

How You Can Access this Benefit:

1. ICOY provides training and technical assistance for IDHS youth service providers. Contact us about a specific program. For CCBYS, Homeless Youth, or Teen REACH program training, email ICOY Senior Director of Prevention & Intervention [Seth El-Jamal](#).



2. [Join our Child Welfare Coalition](#) where we develop key strategies to address racial disparities in the system, stabilize funding and address concerns that arise.

SHARING RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES WITH STAFF

Help your staff take advantage of the educational resources and news ICOY offers.

What You Can Do:

1. Send out links to our [events calendar](#), our [webinar archive](#), and our [blog page](#) (we'll remind you in the ICOY Update eNewsletters).
2. [Sign up to receive our training newsletters](#)
3. Encourage members of your staff (beyond just leadership) to attend member forums and events by forwarding email invitations and flyers. Unless otherwise specified, our member events are open to all staff levels.

BE AN ICOY AMBASSADOR

Expand the impact of our coalition by spreading the word about ICOY!

What You Can Do:

1. Like and share our content on [Facebook](#), [Bluesky](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#). Tag us if you want us to re-post or be aware of your content!
2. Post our [logo](#) with a link to our [website](#) on your own website's "partners" section.
3. Direct people interested in membership to the [request a membership application](#) page on our website.

ICOY'S EQUITY & ACCESS FUND

At ICOY we believe that Illinois only succeeds when ALL of its children and youth thrive. To achieve that vision, we must ensure that our coalition and collective voice incorporates representation and experience from the widest range of community providers serving children, youth, and families possible.

We know that there are many amazing organizations in Illinois that do not have the financial means to pay for an ICOY membership. These important groups often provide critical services to their communities

When voices like these are excluded, even unintentionally, we cannot hope to accurately represent every key stakeholder in our efforts to create a more just and equitable system for the youth of our state. In turn, our advocacy agenda suffers.

For this reason, ICOY's Board of Directors has taken the bold step of establishing the [Equity and Access Fund](#) to provide subsidized memberships for qualifying community-based organizations. We ask all ICOY members to make an additional annual contribution to the Equity and Access Fund. ICOY uses these funds to subsidize membership.

What You Can Do:

1. Email ICOY Sr. Manager of Communications & Outreach [Conor Van Santen](#) and pledge an annual contribution to the Equity & Access Fund.
2. Help us recruit organizations for subsidized memberships. Email [Conor Van Santen](#) with names of organizations you think might be a good fit.