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Direct Service Grant of the Month Arbor Circle

The Healthy Start Program in Kent County is one of 22 Direct Service initiatives currently being funded by the Children's Trust Fund. The project uses the evidenced-based Healthy Families America home visitation model as the basis for delivering comprehensive and high quality services and supports for children and families in Kent County.

Examples of outcomes from the past year include:

- 346 families were served
- 95% of children served were on-track developmentally
- 93% of children completed their immunizations per American Academy of Pediatrics recommended schedule
- 100% of children had a primary care physician



Families reported over a 97% overall satisfaction rate. Here are some testimonials reported by families participating in the Arbor Circle Healthy Start program.

"Healthy Start is very helpful. I like how they teach me about how to educate my child and teach me to be a better mom. They are great with transportation and resources. I love the Healthy Start Program very much."

"I am very happy with the services I receive through Healthy Start. All of the referrals to food pantries, doctors, have helped me and my baby."

"Our family has a reliable worker who is there to discuss our concerns, such as the children's health issues, doctor appointments, community resources, how to get a job and anything else I need."

The Michigan Children's Trust Fund is honored to partner with Arbor Circle and support their work with \$50,000 in funding in fiscal year 2015.

For more information on Arbor Circle contact:

Arbor Circle Corporation, 1101 Ball NE Grand Rapids MI, 49505

Website: www.arborcircle.org

Rachel Fox, *Program Manager, Early Childhood Division*, 616-456-6571

Email: rfox@arborcircle.org

SAVE THE DATE!

CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND OF MICHIGAN

Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

WHAT: Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event



WHEN: Wednesday, May 13, 2015
5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

WHERE: Lansing Center, Downtown Lansing
For directions go to <http://lansingcenter.com>

WHY GET INVOLVED: To help protect Michigan's most vulnerable citizens from child abuse and neglect. Your donation can help to make a difference.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

- Join the CTF's Advisory Committee
- Become a Cash or In-kind Sponsor
- Donate or Underwrite an Auction Item
- Host a Table at the Event
- Purchase a Ticket to Attend the Event

Visit www.michigan.gov/ctfsignature to download an auction item, sponsor commitment, table host, or ticket purchase form.

HOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS: Tickets are \$150 each and can be purchased online at Tickets - CTF Auction 2015 or call the CTF office at 1-800-CHILDREN.

Please contact Tricia Headley, CTF Event/Fund Development Manager, at headleyp@michigan.gov, for additional information or to get involved.

The Michigan Children’s Trust Fund Reinvests All Increases in Tax Check-off Contributions to Communities of Origin

Michigan taxpayers can take advantage of the opportunity to increase the child abuse prevention funding in their communities by making a tax deductible contribution when filing the Michigan tax return. When you file your Michigan taxes, look for Michigan Tax Form 4642, which is the Voluntary Contribution Schedule. CTF is listed as “Children’s Trust Fund – Preventing Child Abuse in Michigan” along with other charities.

Like last year, all increases in tax check-off contributions made to the Children’s Trust Fund will be returned to the communities of origin. CTF has always provided community grants that exceed the local tax check-off amounts. Now, with this plan, CTF will increase those grants, dollar for dollar, with the increases in contributions.

Grants from CTF support a wide range of programs and services through the statewide network of Child Abuse and Neglect Councils. Based on local priorities, local councils use funding for initiatives such as shaken baby prevention and safe sleep education, parent support, child sexual assault prevention and education, welcome baby supports for new families, and community wide education to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect.

Again, please remember CTF when filing your state income taxes. Look for Michigan Tax Form 4642, Voluntary Contribution Schedule, and check to protect!

For more information about CTF, how to contribute, and how to participate in local fundraising activities, please visit www.michigan.gov/ctf or contact CTF Fund Development Coordinator, Tricia Headley at headleyp@michigan.gov.

Show Your Friends You Care Purchase a CTF Specialty License Plate



Add some color to your vehicle with a Children’s Trust Fund specialty license plate. You will support the important work of child abuse prevention and help share this message with your friends, family, and other drivers! It is a fun and easy way to show that you support children and families in Michigan.

Sales of our specialty license plate are an important funding source for CTF. You can order a CTF plate from the Secretary of State, at <http://tinyurl.com/CTFPlate>, any time of the year. The plate sells for \$35; \$25 of which goes to CTF to help fight child abuse and neglect. Once you have a plate, each year the additional \$10 fee goes directly to support of the work of CTF. All of these contributions are tax deductible.

For more information about the Children’s Trust Fund, please visit www.michigan.gov/ctf or call 1-800-CHILDREN.

LOCAL COUNCIL NEWS

Reflections on 2014

I can't believe that 2015 is already underway! I'm very proud of what was accomplished last year by all 73 Local Councils across Michigan. Although there isn't enough space in this article to mention everything, I'd like to take an opportunity to note some 2014 Local Council achievements.

For the sixth year in a row, a dedicated group of Local Councils volunteered their time to help make Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month a success. The CAP Month workgroup volunteers year after year to help produce an amazing CAP Month toolkit. This online toolkit provides Local Councils and other organizations with original materials, including: Helpful Hints for Making CAP Month a Success, School Messaging, a Calendar of CAP Month Activities, Pinwheel Coloring Sheet, and Faith Based Campaign. The CAP Month Workgroup also contributes to making April's Prevention Awareness Day a great success. Last year the group helped organize a great CAP Month rally event at the State Capitol. This event included guest speakers First Lady Sue Snyder, Senators Randy Richardville and Gretchen Whitmer, and DHS Director Maura Corrigan. Special thanks go out to Catherine Martinez (Bay), Kathy Kelly (Ingham), Deanna Norris (Livingston), Miriana Milo (Oakland), Leigh Moerdyke (Ottawa), Leslie Eschenbacher (Saginaw), Cindy Swift (Out-Wayne) for their continued commitment to this dynamic workgroup.

Next, spring and summer regional meetings took place across the state. A total of 63 out of 73 Local Councils (a total of 103 individuals from the councils) came together to share and collaborate with their regional peers. Topics explored during the regional meetings included Strengthening Families and council parent involvement, resilience, and Safe Sleep. The discussion at those seven meetings regarding Safe Sleep had statewide implications. The data gathered became the source of a report which was presented to the state's Safe Sleep Advisory Team. That report included feedback about what is working to help reduce sudden unexplained infant deaths and what doesn't appear to work. It also included recommendations. This report was presented to state's Safe Sleep Advisory Team which is using the report as a source to help shape the state's efforts to eradicate infant deaths due to unsafe sleep practices.

Local Councils also continued to work tirelessly to ensure their organizations' sustainability. Local Councils raised significant funds for their own prevention programming in a number of creative ways including: selling pinwheels, silent auctions, golf tournaments, bake sales, dinner theaters, wine and chocolate parties, partnering with local real estate companies to collect a percentage of sales commissions, selling onesies, and a rubber duck race! These events raised nearly \$1.5 million for the children and families in their communities.

In addition, I was honored to be invited to attend and/or speak at a number of Local Council board meetings, fundraisers, and CAP Month events. I experienced first-hand the commitment to child abuse and neglect prevention that each council tirelessly demonstrates through the education, awareness building and support efforts within their respective communities. Some of the councils I had the privilege of visiting included St. Clair (Sally Straffon), Otsego (Brandy McVannel), Crawford/Roscommon (Theresa Roberts), Wexford/Missaukee (Karen Staub), Mecosta and Osceola (Andi Strickler), Livingston (Deanna Norris), Mason and Oceana (Marie Waite), Calhoun (Megan Cronkhite), and Out-Wayne (Cindy Swift).

Finally, all 73 CTF Local Councils deserve only praise for all they did in 2014 to prevent child abuse and neglect in Michigan! I am honored to work with this wonderful group of men and women who dedicate themselves to ensuring that all of our children grow up in a safe, nurturing community.

Circle of Friends

CARE House of Oakland County will hold their Circle of Friends XIX on January 28, 2015 at The Townsend Hotel in Birmingham, Michigan. Mia Farrow will be the guest speaker. A preview party is also being held on January 27, 2015 at 7:00p.m. For more information contact CARE House of Oakland County at 248-332-7173.

DIRECT SERVICES NEWS

Happy New Year! I hope the Direct Services program year is beginning on a positive note, and that your participant outcomes are moving in the right direction.

DS News and Announcements:

We congratulate the following seven new grantees and their agencies, whose services will be funded April 1, 2015 through September 30, 2018:

- Berrien County Health Department-\$175,000: Triple P Positive Parenting Program
- Bethany Christian Services-\$175,000 (Ottawa): Safe Families for Children
- Cadillac Area OASIS/Family Resource Center-\$175,000 (Wexford/Missaukee): Expanded Parents As Teachers (PAT) Home Visiting program
- Family Service & Children's Aid-\$175,000 (Jackson): Enhanced Nurturing Parenting Education Program
- Keweenaw Family Resource Center-\$174,679 (Baraga/Houghton/Keweenaw): Ready, Set, Grow! Utilizing the PAT program
- Michigan State University Extension – Saginaw-\$174,412: Expanded Building Early Emotional Skills (BEES) program
- Oakland Family Services-\$175,000: PAT program

In saying goodbye to the DS grantees that began in fiscal year 2011—which have made a difference in the lives of so many Michigan families—we thank them for a job well done, and we are hopeful they sustain their important work!

Direct Services Orientation Training

The Direct Services orientation training for new grantees, as well as new program staff from the FY2012 and FY2013 ongoing grantees, will be held on Thursday, March 26 from 9:30 am – 4:00 pm, Department of Human Services – Grand Tower Building, 235 S. Grand Avenue, Conference Room 1A, Lansing, MI 48933. The final agenda will be emailed out in early February.

Annual Michigan Fatherhood Conference - Save the Date of March 20, 2015!

CTF will be providing scholarships for fathers to attend the Michigan Fatherhood Annual Conference in support of parent leadership involvement. CTF will be able to provide 22 scholarships to pay participant registrations. New direct service programs that begin in April 2015 are welcome to have fathers apply. Please register as quickly as possible, as only one dad per direct service program will be funded, unless low scholarship registrations allow for an exception. Additional information will be sent out by the end of January.

DS EGrAMS Reports:

- FY 2015 1st Quarter FSR and Program Register reports are due no later than January 20, 2015 by 5:00 p.m.

DS Work Group:

- The next DS Work Group Teleconference will be on March 5, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm, utilizing the CTF Conference Number: 877-336-1828, Access Code: 8088351

CTF Partnership with Prevent Child Abuse America and Michigan's Children



The Children's Trust Fund recently completed its re-chartering to continue as a state chapter in Michigan for Prevent Child Abuse America. Prevent Child Abuse America is the national voice to protect children from child abuse and neglect, and the Children's Trust Fund appreciates the opportunity to continue this partnership. For more information on Prevent Child Abuse America, visit their website at www.preventchildabuse.org.



Michigan's Children will be working with the Children's Trust Fund as a co-chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America. Michigan's Children is the only statewide independent voice working to ensure that public policies are made in the best interest of children from cradle to career. The Children's Trust Fund is grateful for the opportunity to work with them in protecting children and strengthening families in Michigan. For more information on Michigan's Children, visit their website at www.michiganschildren.org.

Study Shows Shaking a Baby Can Have Lifelong Effect

According to a recent report in Health Day, "Half of children who experience a severe abusive head trauma before the age of 5 will die before they turn 21, according to a new study. In addition, among those who survive severe injuries, quality of life will be cut in half, the study found" (Tara Haelle, Health Day, Head Trauma in Abused Babies, Toddlers Can Have Lifelong Impact, November 17, 2014). For more information on this study, visit <http://consumer.healthday.com/head-and-neck-information-17/head-injury-news-344/abusive-head-trauma-in-babies-toddlers-can-have-lifelong-impact-693746.html>.

One of the priorities of the Children's Trust Fund is to continue its support of Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention efforts through public awareness and special outreach to hospitals.

Kids Store

January is the time of year when the weather is cold and the only thing you want to do is stay inside, covered in a warm blanket drinking a hot beverage of your choice! What better way to keep your beverage hot than in a portable CTF mug. The mugs are perfect for someone on the go or lounging around the house. Each mug has a convenient sliding lid for easy drinking. You can show your support and buy a tumbler for only \$5.00 each (available in navy blue or green). Or we have the stainless steel travel mug for only \$10.00 each. All proceeds go back to Children's Trust Fund in helping prevent child abuse and neglect.

To purchase one of these items or to check out other CTF items in our kids store, please go to the online CTF Kid Store. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Stokes at 517-373-4320.



CTF Social Media Pages



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