



Children's Trust Fund
Protecting Michigan's Children

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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1-night auction event raises nearly \$500,000 to help prevent child abuse, neglect in Michigan

LANSING, Mich., May 15, 2015 – The Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event held on Wednesday raised nearly \$500,000 through live and silent auctions, ticket sales and other donations – funds that represent nearly 20 percent of annual revenue for the Michigan Children's Trust Fund. The CTF is a nonprofit state agency that coordinates statewide efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect.

"On behalf of the Michigan Children's Trust Fund and the countless families we support, I can't express how thankful we are for the generous support we continue to receive from Michigan businesses, ordinary citizens, elected leaders and local communities across the state," said CTF Executive Director **Michael Foley**. "The Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event is truly a terrific opportunity for us to come together, have fun bidding on some outstanding donated gifts and help kids stay safe and healthy so they can succeed. We are overwhelmed and thankful for the generosity of Michiganders from all walks of life who come together to help build a stronger future for our kids."

The event featured dozens of gifts and travel packages donated by generous individuals and businesses that were bid on during silent and live auctions. The gifts ranged from children's birthday packages and handcrafted unique jewelry to travel packages to international and domestic destinations – and even a 9-week-old Australian shepherd puppy. The 4-hour event raised \$485,000.

WLNS anchor **Chivon Kloepfer** served as the energetic host and former Senate Majority Leader **Randy Richardville** was the master of ceremonies.

At the auction event, CTF also presented the 2015 Children's Advocate award to former Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice and former director of the Department of Human Services, **Maura Corrigan**. The award was a metal sculpture called "Quiet embrace" by Williamston artist Lee Kronenberg, himself a former employee at the DHS. Gov. **Rick Snyder** presented the award to Corrigan.

Created by legislature in 1982, CTF is Michigan's only statewide nonprofit organization solely dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. It has raised more than \$60 million to support programs that have affected more than 6 million children and families. CTF dedicates more than 90 percent of its funds to programming and less than 10 percent on administrative costs. CTF does not receive any taxpayer dollars, instead funding its many programs through grants, license plate purchases, check-offs and fundraisers like the Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event. The event is named in honor of Pam Posthumus, who passed away in August 2010. The wife of former Michigan Lt. Governor Dick Posthumus, she was appointed to CTF's Board of Directors in 1997 and board chair in 2002.

For more information on the Children's Trust Fund, please visit www.michigan.gov/ctf.

Photos: Below, this 9-week-old puppy was a huge hit at the Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event – and the center of a bidding war that brought in \$1,700. Bottom, Gov. Rick Snyder and Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert Young (center) help honor former Department of Human Services director Maura Corrigan with the 2015 Children’s Advocate award.

