



Children's Trust Fund
Protecting Michigan's Children

August 6, 2009

Children's Trust Fund Signature Event Supporters,

On September 30, 2009, CTF will hold its seventh annual fundraising auction to raise money and awareness for child abuse prevention programs. CTF and its local partners provide critical support for children and families throughout the state. It is not an overstatement to say that CTF's mission—and your support—is needed now more than ever.

Many of you are actively working on aspects of the event and will be impressed to hear how much progress is being made by everyone involved with the auction. Let's start with the **online auction**, which kicks off tomorrow. Even at this early date, bidders will be able to vie for items like tickets to major sporting events, golf trips, artwork, symphony performances, family activities and more. Check out CTF's [website](#) starting tomorrow to place your bids. Visit often because new items will be added regularly.

Turning to the **live auction**, we already have an impressive line up of items with many, many more in the works. CTF is again grateful to Delta/Northwest Airlines for its exceptionally generous donation of round trip tickets to destinations around the world. Those tickets make it possible to offer some of the best travel packages available from any charity auction in the country. Just think of how nice the weather will be this February...if you're in Hawaii, Mexico or one of the other hot spots available in this year's auction.

And who goes to Hawaii without an exclusive visit to the set of ABC's *Lost*? This trip is made possible by Michigan-native, Emmy Award-winning actor Terry O'Quinn. Although I haven't done the research, it's probably a good bet that Terry individually and as part of the *Lost* cast has more acting [award nominations](#) than any Yooper in our state's history. If not, I'm sure his good buddy and CTF's new Executive Director, Mike Foley, will correct me.

Travel isn't the only option at the live auction. You'll have a chance to take home an incredible Wharton Center theater package, at least one large flat panel TV, a ride in WJR's Jetcopter, important pieces of art, and a chance to spend some time with basketball mega-star LeBron James. (Okay, maybe not one-on-one time, but how about watching him play from the Cleveland Cavalier's owner's suite?) That's just the tip of

the iceberg. Over the next few weeks, more unique items will be announced as everyone's hard work pays off.

Finally, CTF is blessed to have some of the most generous **corporate sponsors** once again supporting this year's event. DTE Energy and Great Lakes Capital Fund have been long-time supporters of the auction and are back in 2009 as very major donors. Also making significant contributions are the Accident Fund of Michigan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Jackson National Life Insurance, Meijer, and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority. They and all of sponsors have already given CTF's life-changing work a boost during difficult economic times.

Please, keep pressing for the next seven weeks. The results highlighted here are impressive, but CTF's Signature Event is known for showcasing generosity that exceeds expectations. Between now and the auction, you have the opportunity to contribute your talent, networking expertise, and yes, money, to **make the most important contribution many Michigan kids will ever receive: a chance to grow up happy and healthy.**

Scott Stevenson
Chair, CTF's Public Awareness and Fund Development Committee

Cherish The Children Signature Event [website](#)