



Children's Trust Fund

Protecting Michigan's Children

NEWS BRIEFS

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CTF Receives Responsible Fatherhood Grant

The Children's Trust Fund recently received word that its application for a \$20,000 grant to promote responsible fatherhood was approved. The grant is from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Administration for Children & Families) by way of the Circle of Parents program. The purpose of the one-year grant is to provide training and technical assistance to professionals throughout Michigan who are engaged in responsible fatherhood programs and services. All CTF grantees are eligible to receive the training and technical support that will be offered (more news about the training content and schedule will follow in subsequent *News Briefs*). Trainers will be CTF Direct Services Grant Monitor Sylvia Brown Jones, LMSW, and Joyce Bos, MSW, of Pathways Michigan. Both Sylvia and Joyce were responsible for the grant application. For more information contact Sylvia at 1.800.CHILDREN or brown-jones@michigan.gov.



Sylvia Brown Jones

FY2008 Reporting Updates – Teleconference

Please be sure to review the November *News Briefs* for important changes to FY2008 reporting, especially related to the EGrAMS program register. CTF will also offer a brief update on reporting changes via teleconference on Friday, January 11, at 11:00 a.m. This update will be relevant for grantees who do not attend an EGrAMS training in January. Please contact Alan Stokes by January 9 to register for this teleconference and to receive the call-in number.

EGrAMS Training Reminder

CTF will offer four EGrAMS training sessions in Lansing and Gaylord to assist direct service and local council grantees with quarterly reports, including Financial Status Reports, Program Registers, and Activity Reports/Work Plans. Grantees will be able to work on their first quarter reports and receive one-on-one assistance.

Training dates are as follows:

Jan. 10, 2008 at Lansing OPD: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. or 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Jan. 14, 2008 at Gaylord OPD: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. or 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Please inform Alan Stokes whether you will or will not attend this training (see contact information below). When you respond, also identify the person(s) in your organization responsible for EGrAMS.

There are still spots available at each of these trainings! To participate, please follow these steps:

1. Register with Alan Stokes by email (stokesa@michigan.gov) or telephone (517.241.7793).
2. Bring your 1st quarter report data to the training to receive assistance entering the data.
3. Identify any EGrAMS problems or questions and bring them to the training.

Local Council Work Group

With the close of the deadline for responses to the 2007 CTF satisfaction survey, self-nominations for the Local Council Work Group (LCWG) have also closed. In the next several days, a call to meet will be issued for mid-January. The next issue of *News Briefs* will announce members serving on the LCWG.

This group will (1) function as an advisory body to the Executive Director to coordinate mutual expectations, communications, opportunities, and concerns among and between local councils, CTF staff, and the CTF Board and (2) determine how often the LCWG meets and its goals for 2008-2009. Use of teleconferencing will be an option for all LCWG meetings, in addition to attending in person.

Upcoming Events

January 15: The Volinia Outcomes School will host a free seminar entitled “Coping with Stress.” Lisa H. Story, a clinical psychologist, will discuss ways to balance your emotions, mind, and body. Feel free to come with personalized questions! Light refreshments and free child care will be provided. The seminar will be held from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Volinia Outcomes School, 54080 Gards Prairie Road, Decatur. Contact Mary Karabetsos at 269.782.9716 with questions.

January 20: An RFP for Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Grants was recently issued. Grant applications are due by 3:00 p.m. on January 20. Information on the RFP is located on the spotlight section of the CTF website.

January 28: The Children’s Trust Fund Board will meet at 1:30 p.m. at DTE Energy’s Lansing office located at 101 S. Washington Square, Ste. 700, Lansing, MI 48933. For more information contact the CTF office at 517.373.4320.

February 1: Michigan Head Start Association and the Michigan Fatherhood Coalition will host the Sixth Annual Fatherhood Conference “Nurturing Children, Leaving Legacies.” The event will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, Dearborn, Michigan. More information is available on the CTF website.

Important Reminders for All Direct Services Grantees and Local Councils

1. In accordance with your Designation Agreement or Direct Services Grant, your annual “Contract Monitoring Questionnaire” (form DHS-1351) is due by December 31. Please reference the last paragraph under “III. GENERAL PROVISIONS, G. Reporting and Monitoring, 2. Monitoring Requirements” in your respective grant or designation agreement.

All new FY2008 direct service grantees and new local councils must complete this form within 90 days of beginning your actual service delivery, and annually thereafter. The questionnaire can be found at www.michigan.gov/dhs by clicking on “Doing Business with DHS” then “Contractor Resources” then “Forms and Publications.” Submit the completed and signed questionnaire to CTF, Attn: Sylvia Brown Jones.

2. No hard copies of direct service or local council Statement of Expenditures should be submitted to CTF. All expenditure information should be submitted in EGrAMS. Your grant monitor will generate payments from your approved EGrAMS reports.

All children are gifted. Some just open their presents later than others.

Unknown

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