



**Children's Trust Fund**

*Protecting Michigan's Children*

# NEWS BRIEFS

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## CAP Month Update



The theme for 2008 CAP Month is "The Power of One Action." CAP Month toolkits are currently in production and will be assembled for mailing in early February. CTF will distribute the toolkits to you as quickly as possible. In addition, please save the dates for the following CAP Month activities:

March 18: Legislative Day & Press Conference at State Capitol

April 6: Turn the Light on Prevention

April 13: CAP Month 5K Run/Walk beginning at the State Capitol

April 27: Blue Sunday

Legislative Day is an opportunity for early childhood prevention programs from across Michigan to meet legislators and their staff at the State Capitol. Call Children's Charter of the Courts of Michigan at 517.482.7533 for more information on the Legislative Day events and how you can be involved.



**New Event!** The Children's Trust Fund will sponsor a 2008 Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention 5K Run/Walk on Sunday, April 13, at 1:00 p.m. This will be a great opportunity to help raise awareness about prevention while staying fit! For more information on CAP Month activities, please contact Patricia Headley at [headleyp@michigan.gov](mailto:headleyp@michigan.gov) or call 1-800-CHILDREN.

## **Help Support the CTF Tax Check-Off**

Tax season is underway! Help support and expand local prevention programs by encouraging individuals in your community to donate to CTF on line 30 of their Michigan income tax form. As Governor Granholm said when she reinstated the check-off in 2006, “Children are the future of this great state, and by contributing to CTF you are making an investment in Michigan’s future that is guaranteed to pay off.” Promotional materials are available by contacting Alan Stokes in the CTF office or by submitting a “Literature Request Form” on the CTF website.

## **Important Poverty Report Released**

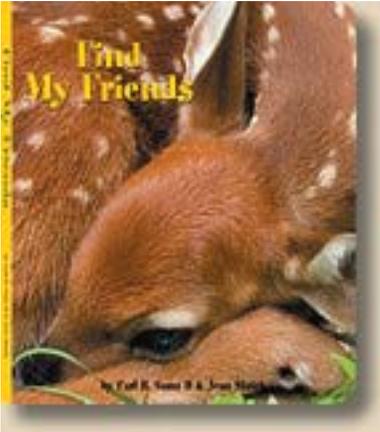
In December 2007, the Michigan League for Human Services released a report entitled “The Changing Face of Poverty in Michigan: More Families Slide into Troubled Times.” Information highlighted in the report includes median household incomes, health care coverage, and child poverty. The report can be accessed via the CTF website under the Resources section in the “Research” drop down menu or from <http://www.milhs.org/Media/EDocs/ChangingFaceofPovertyREV2.pdf>.

## **Building on the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

This year, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday kicked off a new initiative called “40 Days of Non-violence: Building the Beloved Community.” Families, schools, and other groups throughout the country will take part in a variety of projects, ranging from studying the principles of nonviolence to tutoring children. Visit [www.mlkday.gov](http://www.mlkday.gov) to find out more about the initiative and to learn ways to promote Dr. King’s vision of social justice and nonviolence.

During this initiative, Governor Granholm is encouraging individuals to consider mentoring a child or youth. Information about mentoring can be found at [www.michigan.gov/mentormichigan](http://www.michigan.gov/mentormichigan). Encourage youth mentoring in your community!

## Order *Find My Friends* at No Cost



CTF received a donation of the children's book *Find My Friends* by Carl R. Sams II and Jean Stoick. The publisher, Carl R. Sams II Photography, Inc., donated 2,250 copies of the book to CTF. A description of the book can be found at <http://www.carlsams.com/books.htm>. CTF is making these books available to grantees free of charge. The books may not be sold and should be distributed to children or parents in your community. Specific requests should be made by February 29, 2008. In early March the books will be distributed equally based on needs. Due to limited supplies, not all requests for larger orders may be filled completely. To place an order, contact Alan Stokes at [stokesa@michigan.gov](mailto:stokesa@michigan.gov) or 517.241.7793. Please indicate quantity desired (e.g., 25, 75, as many as possible).

## Upcoming Direct Service RFP

The direct service RFP for FY2009 is under development with an anticipated issue date of mid-March. CTF will distribute the RFP to its network via email and will also post information about the RFP on the website. More detailed information will be conveyed via the *News Briefs* as it becomes available.

## February is Fatherhood Awareness Month

Governor Granholm proclaimed February as Responsible Fatherhood Awareness Month. In celebration, a legislative breakfast is being sponsored by the Michigan Fatherhood Coalition with support from the Council of Michigan Foundations, the Children's Trust Fund of Michigan, Courtland Consulting, and Spectrum Human Services.

Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2008

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Location: State Capitol Building – North Wing

In addition to breakfast, an exhibition of fatherhood programs that focus on improving outcomes for Michigan's children will be on display. The goal of this event is to educate the legislature about the importance of fatherhood programming and to emphasize the critical role that responsible fathers play in a healthy family life.

## Upcoming Events

**February 5:** The Volinia Outcomes School will host a free parent seminar on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Sheri Notten and Mary Lou Rasmussen will discuss the dangers and consequences of drinking alcohol during pregnancy. 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 for more information.

**February 9:** Child's Hope (Wayne County-Out) will host a Call to Action to follow up on the "Save Our Children Summit 2007 – Addressing the Crisis in Michigan Foster Care." This working meeting will serve as an opportunity to network, educate, and prepare to advocate for children in foster care. Tell or bring a friend! Please RSVP by February 7 to 313.583.6401 or [childhpe@umd.umich.edu](mailto:childhpe@umd.umich.edu).

**February 28:** The CAN Council Saginaw County will hold its 15th annual Mardi Gras Auction. The event will feature gourmet hors d'oeuvres and exciting auction and raffle items. Appropriate Mardi Gras attire is encouraged. Tickets are \$45 per person and will benefit the work of the council. The event will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the Apple Mountain Resort's Grand Ballroom, located at 4519 N. River Road in Freeland. Contact Delores Gale at 989.752.7226 or [dgale@cancouncil.org](mailto:dgale@cancouncil.org) for more information.

**March:** Michigan celebrates the month of March as Parenting Awareness Month. For more information on parenting awareness activities or to read Governor Granholm's proclamation, visit the Parenting Awareness Michigan website at [www.preventionnetwork.org](http://www.preventionnetwork.org).

## Prevention Resources

Many prevention resources are available to help inform and enhance your prevention services and activities. CTF would like to highlight the following two resources:

**FRIENDS:** FRIENDS serves as the National Resource Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) programs. The FRIENDS website offers information on outcome accountability (including a free Family Support Program Outcome Survey and a free Logic Model Builder), cultural competency, parent leadership, reframing, maximizing resources, network building, and much more. Visit the FRIENDS website at [www.friendsnrc.org](http://www.friendsnrc.org).

**Child Welfare Information Gateway:** The Gateway provides access to information and resources for programs that work to protect children and strengthen families. The homepage is [www.childwelfare.gov](http://www.childwelfare.gov). Under the "Topics" heading in the left margin, click on "Preventing Child Abuse & Neglect." The section highlights developing and sustaining prevention programs, evaluating programs, creating public awareness campaigns, and more.

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