

Signature Auction Event



CTF Grantee Success Stories
Touching the Lives of Michigan's Children and Families

In preparation for the 2010 Signature Auction Event, we invited our grantees to share highlights and success stories from the work they are doing with children and families throughout Michigan. There were so many stories of the meaningful differences being made for families; we thought we would compile them in this booklet.

Direct Services — Section 1 (pages 2-19)

The first section highlights some of the touching stories that our direct services grantees shared. Direct service grants fund prevention programs and services to promote strong, nurturing families and to prevent child abuse and neglect. In FY 2009, CTF funded 30 direct service grants that served 3,829 families.

Local Councils — Section 2 (pages 20-49)

The second section describes some of the incredible work being done by our local Child Abuse Councils. In FY 2009, CTF also funded 72 local councils that served 82 counties. The Councils provide a wide array of services based on specific community needs, including providing information and referrals, implementing public awareness campaigns, organizing Child Abuse Prevention Month activities, providing prevention leadership in local committees, developing local resource directories, and providing educational workshops and in-service trainings.

Take a moment and peruse this booklet. We think you will see why the Signature Auction Event is so important. As these stories and highlights clearly demonstrate, our Councils and Direct Service grantees are touching the lives of so many children and their families. Their work and the impact they are making is why tonight's event is both an enjoyable evening, and one that raises critical funds for this important work.

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A CTF Success Story from Bay County *Direct Service Grant*

“The Significant of Our Hands”

Delia Rivero is a single mother with two children (ages 5 years and the other 9 months), and attended the Pailalen at the Cook Art Center in the Fall of 2009. Delia wrote us after her Pailalen experience and shared the following appreciation for the program:

“By imprinting our palms we were able to realize that through mutual support and unity we have the power to change the future. Pailalen helped us to grow as parents through teaching us how to apply the ‘1-2-3 Magic’, ‘Before and After’, and ‘Negotiating with your Children’ tools. They allowed us to realize that we do not need to yell or hit our children in order to educate them. Our children have rights and we shall respect them in order to maintain effective and healthy communication. Thank you Pailalen for showing us how to become better parents, providing us with ways in which



we can express our emotions, and making us realize that we are not alone. We appreciate you for recognizing that there are many parents who lack information and resources, and by giving us the opportunity we can educate and raise our children in a better way.”

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An Insight into our Wexford/Missaukee Child Protection Council

What the Wexford/Missaukee Child Protection Council does:

- Provides mandated reporter training for mandated reporters in Wexford and Missaukee counties
- Sponsors annual luncheons for professionals on child abuse issues.
- Promotes child abuse awareness in the community.
- Sponsors sexual abuse prevention drama in local elementary schools using local high school students.
- Participates in Safe Kids event at the local Child Safety Expo.
- Provides funding to local DARE program for incentives for students.
- Partnered with local sexual abuse support group to make booklets on sexual abuse prevention.
- Provides funding for Cadillac High School Pride Team to attend conference on providing peer support.

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An Insight into our Wayne County Local Council: *Child Abuse Prevention Council of Out-Wayne County*

This year marks our 25th anniversary of serving Out-Wayne County children and families. We help heal children and families through education, building awareness and developing programs that enhance the health of children and families.

Last Year (2009) the council was able to:

- Collect over 6000 diapers and hundreds of wipes and other items to help benefit families in need and help support the Detroit Area Diaper Bank which was able to collect over 57,000 diapers for the community.
- Provided mandated reporter trainings to over 669 professionals in the community.
- Educate children in 61 local schools and help spread our message while conducting the “My Body is Mine” training to young children.
- Fully recruit our AmeriCorps. Mentors for our IMPACT early literacy program which serves 5 schools in the community.



“The children were all engaged. They enjoyed the story and the songs we sang. The presentation is wonderful (it’s just the right amount for preschoolers.) It lets children know the difference between good and bad touches. It encourages children to talk to parents about it if they feel uncomfortable with situations. Well done! Thanks for the book and CD.”

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A Personal Story from Our Berrien Health Department *Direct Service Program*

Getting pregnant was a life changing moment for this young high school junior. “Anna” was unsure of what to do, Anna, having been diagnosed with ADD and having to attend some special education classes, worried about having all the skills she would need to take care of a baby plus still reach her goal of graduating high school.



At 14 weeks pregnant she decided to join Nurse-Family Partnership program to gain the necessary parenting skills she needed. Anna went on to have a healthy baby girl and now is a senior in high school. She is on target to graduate and is looking forward to receiving her diploma while her little girl watches from the stands.

After graduation this mom is interested in doing something in the childcare field.

Facts about the Berrien County Health Department’s Nurse Family Partnership Program:

- Serves 100 first time mothers in Berrien County
- Provides weekly or biweekly nursing home visits with first time moms beginning in pregnancy and continues until the baby turns 2 years old
- Nurses work with mom’s on a healthy pregnancy outcome, educational goals and economic self sufficiency, as well as the health of the infant, immunizations, and the growth & development of the child
- The importance of reading to a young child is encouraged through a “beginning library” book component of the program

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A Personal Story from Our Berrien Health Department *Direct Service Program*

“Gina” entered the Nurse Family Partnership at 10 weeks of pregnancy. She is a married woman that works in the medical field at a local hospital. She and her husband had been married for 15 years, and had tried without success to get pregnant for years. When she finally became pregnant they were both excited. Then the complications began to set in. One thing after another began to happen. Gina had heard about the Nurse Family Partnership program through her local WIC office and signed up for it.



During the pregnancy Gina found that she had a tumor that threatened to end the long awaited pregnancy. Then her husband began to act out and even physically assaulted her. Through it all she stuck with the program and learned how to stand up for herself and get help. She even had the strength to ask her husband to leave until he received counseling.

Today Gina and her husband are back together and both are receiving counseling services. She works full time and her husband now is also gainfully employed. Their son is benefiting from having the love of both parents in the home.

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An Insight into our Washtenaw County Local Council

Since 1975, WACC has been helping to educate and support the community, parents, children and youth-serving professionals throughout Washtenaw County. Our programs include: *Internet Safety for school aged youth and parents/ community; Shaken Baby Syndrome Training; Safe Sleep Training; Safe Baby Training; and an Educational series on issues relating to child abuse and neglect.*

2009 Facts about Washtenaw County Local Council Program:

- 58 Peer Mentors were trained in High Schools on Internet Safety
- 1,556 students and 329 parents and community members learned how to use the Internet safely
- 180 preschool children learned about keeping their bodies safe.
- 177 teens were taught about Shaken Baby Syndrome
- 145 community members and professionals were trained on safe sleep environments
- 200 professionals, caregivers, community members attended our educational series and annual conference.

“I’d like to thank you for taking the time to teach the children important rules & information they need to know in order to keep themselves safe. You made it fun for them to learn and they looked forward to seeing you every day. Thank you for your time and effort!”

- Pre-Kindergarten Teacher

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An Insight into our St. Clair County Child Abuse/Neglect Council

The St. Clair County Child Abuse/Neglect Council is proud to have been a local designated Council of the Children's Trust Fund since its inception. Our prevention services have grown and prospered since that time and we thank Children's Trust Fund for their leadership and support.

During the 2008-2009 fiscal year, our prevention outreach:

- Touched over 10,000 St. Clair County kids and their families.
- Our programs remain the core of our prevention and are respected, accepted and sought after by area schools and agencies. Those programs include:
 - Bubbylonian Encounter
 - Just the Facts
 - Never Shake a Baby
 - Personal Boundaries Workshops

Our hearts are grateful that during a time when our economy presents many challenges, our volunteer base remains strong, contributors remain loyal and the Children's Trust Fund remains a strong and caring partner in all our efforts!

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A Personal Story from Our Berrien Health Department Direct Service Program

When “Kari” was 19 and single she found out she was pregnant. Kari knew she needed to start thinking of how she would take care of her baby so the first thing she did was to sign up for WIC. She learned of the Nurse Family Partnership program while at the Berrien County Health Department. She registered at the local community college, and continued to work part time during her pregnancy. By the time Kari completed her first semester at college she delivered a baby boy.



Kari is a very attentive and caring mother. She continues to take her college classes on-line so she would not be miss a semester. Kari says the Nurse Family Partnership program has helped her learn more about how to care for her baby and it has been very encouraging.

Facts about the Berrien County Health Department's Nurse Family Partnership Program:

- Serves 100 first time mothers in Berrien County
- Provides weekly or biweekly nursing home visits with first time moms beginning in pregnancy and continues until the baby turns 2 years old
- Nurses work with mom's on a healthy pregnancy outcome, educational goals and economic self sufficiency, as well as health of the infant, immunizations, and the growth & development of the child
- The importance of reading to a young child is encouraged through a “beginning library” book component of the program

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**A Personal Story from Our Berrien Health Department
Direct Service Program**

“Katie” moved to a new community as a teenager. She found it hard to fit in and wanted new friends. She found a group of friends that she started to “hang with”. They would buy alcohol for their friends and next thing she knew she was a heroin addict. All of her dreams were shattered because of drug use and peer pressure.

Katie became pregnant and realized that she didn’t want to stay an addict, or harm her unborn child. She entered a substance abuse treatment program. Katie has been very successful with her sobriety and has a healthy beautiful daughter. She will be starting school to become a certified nursing assistant.



Katie stated she will never return to the use of drugs because of her daughter and the love for her,. Also, because of the support and strength provided to her by the Nurse Family Partnership Program.

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**An Insight into our Saginaw County Local Council
CAN Council Saginaw County**

The CAN Van:

The CAN Van increases our visibility in the community. It also makes it easier for us to deliver the computerized infant simulators used in the Baby Think It Over program. Baby Think It Over teaches middle and high school students about the nature of infants and how to properly care for them.

Last year in 2009:

- 700 potential parents learned about “Baby Basics”
- 1,212 professionals learned how to report suspected child abuse & neglect
- 625 students have participated in “Baby Think It Over”
- Created and distributed 13,000 CAN Talk Newsletters to bring Child Abuse Prevention awareness to our community
- Designed and implemented new, state-of-the-art website



“I think it was a good learning experience for her. She has always been around babies and cared for them, but not for great lengths of time. The time constraints on her lifestyle were the best learning part.”

Thoughts on Baby Think It Over Program

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An Insight into our Ottawa County Local Council

The local Child Abuse and Neglect Councils in collaboration with the Great Start Collaborative in Ottawa, Allegan, and Muskegon Counties have a plan of action. The three counties worked together over the past year to send several representatives to the PREVENT institute in North Carolina. The team brought back what they had learned and helped the region walk through a strategic planning process.

The process included focus groups and utilized a method called “Appreciative Inquiry.” Because of the strong collaborative spirit of everyone involved, the region now has a strategic plan. Each county is now beginning to determine what their strategies and action steps will be to meet the goals of the plan. The three councils are working together to see what action steps will be similar and if there are ways of working together to maximize and leverage resources.

A participant of one of the programs in the region captured why we are working together by saying:

*“I just like know that there are programs out there to help.
At first, before I came I had no faith.”*

-Anonymous participant of one of our fatherhood programs.

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A CTF Success Story from Cass County *Direct Service Grant*

“I grew up in a very poor neighborhood; I was raised with gang members. There were fights, drug trafficking, drive-by robberies, and very little money. All of my dreams were shattered because of drug use and peer pressure. At the age of 15, I decided to leave my home and live with a male gang member



whom I thought loved me. I became pregnant and he left me. After learning from a friend of mine (who was also a teen parent) about the services being offered at Volinia Outcomes School I made the choice to move home and take advantage of those services.

I am now a full time student in my junior year. I have taken parenting courses at Volinia. My son has gained wonderful social skills by being around other children his age and also being with a wonderful caretaker whom I trust. I would have never come this far if it wasn't for the referral to Volinia Outcomes School and CTF.”

Facts about Cass County Direct Service Program

- Currently serve over 100 families on a daily basis
- Offer parenting seminars on effects of drug and alcohol abuse to the effects of domestic violence
- Distribute 200 newsletters a month that give parenting tips
- Mentor to teen mom's about the importance of education

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A CTF Success Story from Genesee County *Direct Service Grant*

“I guess my life was based on my mental way of thinking. I had really no sense of future goals or decisions for myself. Starting this program was hard for me because I was going through so many different changes. I really wanted my own kids, but then having to deal with the courts for custody of my own flesh and blood, the passing away of my kid’s mother, and my issues with drugs was almost too much. I had so many burdens and obstacles that many times I wanted to give up, it was the love I had for my boys and wanting to raise them that kept me going. So I went through the stages. I couldn’t do it in one day, a week, or a month; so instead of fighting the system I gave it a chance.

My first task was the baby class (The Nurturing Parenting Program through G.I.S.D.). That was the best thing they could have done for me, it was my start. The class gave me the sense of love I needed to put my kids in order, and helped me to focus on my boys. The baby class also helped me to understand working on my drug issues and the loss of their mother would help to reach my goal of reunification of me and my boys.

With The Nurturing Program I faced all the trials, and am making steady progress. Because of this, a whole lot of things in my life are better, and I’m loving every bit of it.”

Facts about Genesee ISD County Direct Service Program:

- Nurturing as a Philosophy
- Age Appropriate Expectations
- Communications
- Empathy
- Self-Worth
- Many more areas of parenting

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An Insight into our Otsego County Local Council

Facts about Otsego County Local Council Program:

- Provide Head Lice Kits to Otsego County Families
- Assist local authorities and coordinate child car seat safety checks (this includes providing new car seats to families in need)
- Sponsor parenting classes and provide scholarships for families in need
- Distribute posters and information for the “Never, Never Shake a Baby” campaign
- Provide, in collaboration with DHS and local law enforcement officials, Mandated Reporter Training for mandate reporters of Otsego County
- Print and Distribute Community Resource cards
- In cooperation with the local Masons, hold annual MI Chip Child Identification programs
- Provide First Aid Kits for families as a parenting enrichment/safe kids program targeting children who are home alone
- Promote child abuse awareness by providing placemats to local restaurants and the community meals program. The placemats feature artwork from local elementary students.



“I am so thankful for the car seat safety check. I was surprised that my child’s seat was not safe. It wasn’t installed correctly either. The technician showed me how to install a new seat in the correct position. I feel so much better knowing that my child is as safe as possible while riding in the car.”

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An Insight into our Oakland County Local Council

CARE House was established in 1977 to provide a proactive approach to addressing child abuse and neglect issues. As a prevention council affiliated with the Michigan Children's Trust Fund since the 1980s, Care House works to address the underlying causes of abuse through advocacy, community outreach, education and prevention programs. CARE House remains as the first and only organization of its type in Oakland County.

The CARE House staff and the more than 100 volunteers serve our community through the:

- Healthy Start / Healthy Families Program gives in home support to families identified as being at-risk for abuse.
- The Stewards of Children Program has educated close to 5,000 adults about their responsibility to not only recognize the signs of abuse, but to appropriately react and report suspected child abuse.
- In 2009, close to 1,500 Mandated Reporters received training through our Community Outreach Program and The Stewards of Children Training to react to their Mandated role with accuracy and knowledge.
- During a recent presentation at an Oakland County school district where the math teacher was both a survivor and victim, the retrospective survey of the program reflected how moved he was by the Stewards of Children program.
- Participates in Great Start Collaborative. We hold a leadership role in parent education, working on developing a strategy to educate parents and planning parent conference.
- We've just completed a parent guide to help protect children from sexual abuse as part of the kiosk displays in libraries, schools, pediatrician offices, and DHS offices serving families in Oakland County.

“Thank you for providing excellent, life-giving information. Thanks for what you do. This is a necessary topic to speak about. I would have given anything to have had a CARE House in my life.”

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A Success Story from Grand Traverse *Direct Service Grant*

“I met “mom” when her son was just an infant. She was visiting the local elementary school. I was the Way to Grow School Readiness Coordinator and after introductions, “mom” signed up for home visits.

It became clear after my first home visit that this mom was in much need of support. She explained to me that both her and her husband worked full time, opposite shifts. When dad came home from work, “mom” put their little boy in a car seat in front of the TV while “mom” caught up on her sleep.

“Mom” never missed a home visit with me. She participated in many groups and seemed to enjoy all the information I offered. Soon their baby girl was born and she too became part of the Way to Grow program.

I periodically completed Ages and Stages questionnaires and it was apparent that their son had a language delay. I worked with the mother through the assessments and eventual enrollment for her son in an Early Childhood Program in our area. Mother and son became very involved in school and loved his ECP classroom. I continually visited “mom” and her daughter while big brother was at school.

After separating from her husband, “mom” decided to return to college. One of the most memorable times of sharing was when “mom” had me read one of her research papers. I believe this is a true success story.

Both children are doing well in school; the boy in kindergarten now and the little girl attends Head Start.”

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A Success Story from Keweenaw *Direct Service Grant*

“I am Ely. I live way up north in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Over the past 3 years my family has taken part in lots of Keweenaw Family Resource Center programs. When I was born I had heart surgery and a tracheotomy. I had some special needs. Pam, my home visitor, and my mom were able to help me learn how to do lots of things. We read books, played with play dough; we had lots of projects that helped me get ready for school. Pam also gave my mom lots of tips on how to help me behave, eat healthy and clean my teeth.”

Ely is 4 years old and lives in Calumet Michigan. He lives with his mom and his 2 year old sister. His favorite color is purple and he likes to eat pizza. Ely will be having many more surgeries as he grows. One day on the playground another child asked him “what is that in your neck?” Ely told him it was a trac to help him breathe. The classmate shrugged and walked away. A little while later Ely went back up to him and with a great big smile said” Don’t worry it doesn’t hurt.”

Keweenaw Family Resource Center has been a direct service grantee for over 12 years. Over the years, CTF has helped fund home visiting programs, family support, teen parenting sessions, socializations, playgroups, parent education and the Family Toolbox Project. 100% of the families enrolled in KFRC Home visiting program have a minimum of 3 risk factors, 54% of the families had a minimum of five.



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An Insight into our Newaygo County Local Council Summer Programs

SUMMER MAGIC, “KEENAGERS”, AND TEEN CHALLENGE

In their 16th year of serving children ages 5-18.

Last year enrolled 660 youth for eight weeks of programming.

In 2009, served over 4746 free lunches and 4814 snacks to hungry children.

Provided educational components of: recycling, stranger danger, self-defense, internet safety, nutrition, karate, Alpacas, clowning/juggling, song writing/ukulele playing, gun safety and the Sheriff’s Department drug dog.

Field trips (based on age) were to: Country Dairy (cheese making), Cowboys and Clowns (horseback riding), Fremont Lanes, Hardy Dam, Pierre Marquette State Park (swimming and dune climbing), Baffling Bill the Magician at the Dogwood, nature trails, MCC college tour, miniature golf, and Michigan Adventure/3 day camping (for the teens).

Community service projects included: trash pick-up at park sites, raking area park beaches, food depot, the Newaygo Medical Care Facility, helping PCA relocate the storage area and Bellwether animal shelter.

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An Insight into our Child Abuse Council of Muskegon County “Every Step of the Way”

We know that child abuse is bigger than any one person, group or organization. That's why we've taken a collaborative approach. We work with teachers and police officers, doctors and therapists, social workers and parents. We work with children. We're working to prevent child abuse before it starts, to help children who are being abused, and to heal victims of abuse.

Last year, in an effort to prevent child abuse and neglect in Muskegon County our council:

- Provided personal safety education to 3,876 preschool and kindergarten children in the community
- Provided personal safety education to 15,873 elementary students
- Provided education to 3,337 middle and high school youths on healthy relationships and the realities of teenage pregnancy.
- Provided training to 661 adults and 735 professionals in *Stewards of Children's* child sexual abuse prevention curriculum.



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A Success Story from Midland *Direct Service Grant*

“I am a Family Mentor that works closely with “At Risk” families in Midland County. One of the mom’s that I currently work with “Jenni” called me and said she just met someone that really needed help.

After talking with Jenni’s friend “Michelle”, I realized that she did indeed need support and information about the service’s Midland County offers. When I first met her she had a multitude of factors putting her family at-risk. She is a young single mom with five children ages seven and under. Her partner Randy just this month returned to the family. Having become homeless in her previous county of residence, Michelle moved to Midland in December to be closer to her mother.

In collaboration with the elementary school I began the intake process. I went with her to DHS so she could sign up for assistance and with help from the school, we got the family “adopted” for Christmas. I also referred her 4 year-old daughter to a quality preschool program, which she is now attending.

What I find the most exciting is the fact that this mom has the heart, soul, and energy it takes to grow to her fullest potential. However she needs the support and guidance we can provide to help her remain on track, because this is a family that only understands hardship. Michelle has not graduated from high school yet but is now looking forward to doing so.

I’m hoping consistent help from the Family Mentor Project, paired with this mom’s energy and enthusiasm will allow this mom to graduate from college one day, making an entirely new future for her children!”

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An Insight into Circle of Parents at Pathways, MI *Direct Service Grant*

Circle of Parents program is a source of strength and support *for parents, by parents*. These programs are a time-tested child abuse prevention approach that promotes positive parenting by:

- Helping parents become more competent and confident in parenting roles
- Offering bi-weekly groups at no cost to participants, including a light dinner and childcare.
- Helping reduce isolation, build self-esteem and reinforce positive parenting.
- Linking parents to resources within the group and throughout the community.



“Since participating in Circle of Parents, my confidence has improved knowing that I was not the only one going through problems. I like the opportunity of talking with other parents that are going through the same things or that have already been there and can help me through it.”

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An Insight into our Monroe County Local Council

In 2009 the Child Advocacy Network of Monroe County celebrated its 25th anniversary and made the transition to a Tier 2 affiliate.

April 2010 marks the 15th anniversary of Celebrate Children. The Child Advocacy Network proudly co-sponsors this annual event that draws nearly 3,000 children and families. Celebrate Children is a FREE family event where children can have a great time doing activities and grown ups can connect with our community resources.

The Child Advocacy Network of Monroe County monthly meetings serve as a networking opportunity for many local agencies and organizations that help support the healthy development of children and families.

Other programs and initiatives supported by CAN in Monroe County include:

- BabyNet
- Mandatory Reporting Training
- Be Their Hero from Age Zero Summit
- Monroe County Parenting Conference
- Pinwheels for Prevention
- Safe Sleep Initiative



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An insight into our Midland County Local Council *Safe & Sound Child Advocacy Center of Midland Michigan*

Since 1979 the Safe & Sound Child Advocacy Center has educated, supported, and championed healthy children and families. During the year 2009 our council:

- Provided educational services to over 750 families and family service professionals in our community
- Provided mandated reporter training to 22 community professionals.
- Distributed a quarterly electronic newsletter and developed a web site and facebook page to stay connected with families
- Introduced at a local elementary school Second Step and Talk About Touching curriculums
- Supported a community baby shower which served 95 new parents



“Thanks to the Safe & Sound Child Advocacy Center I was able to receive information about child development that helped to make me a better parent” Thanks to Children’s Trust Fund and Safe & Sound for making this possible throughout the State of Michigan.”

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An Insight into our Ottawa Direct Service Program *Direct Service Grant*

Pathways, MI will soon be implementing the Period of PURPLE Crying program. The program will be implemented through Western Great Start Regional Resource Center and the local Child Abuse and Neglect Councils located within the Western Great Start Region.

The Period of PURPLE Crying program teaches parents and caregivers that all infants go through a phase of increased crying that eventually comes to an end in the fourth or fifth month of life. The Period of PURPLE Crying is an evidence based program to prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome. The Period of PURPLE Crying goes beyond Shaken Baby by helping parents learn to anticipate peak periods of their infant’s crying and understand that sometimes the crying will be inconsolable.

The Letters in **PURPLE** Stand for

P	U	R	P	L	E
PEAK OF CRYING	UNEXPECTED	RESISTS SOOTHING	PAIN-LIKE FACE	LONG LASTING	EVENING
Your baby may cry more each week. The most at 2 months, then less at 3-5 months	Crying can come and go and you don't know why	Your baby may not stop crying no matter what you try	A crying baby may look like they are in pain, even when they are not	Crying can last as much as 5 hours a day, or more	Your baby may cry more in the late afternoon and evening

Pathways, MI screened the Period of PURPLE Crying video at the Great Start Regional Resource Center Resource “Bananza” on March 31, 2010 in Ottawa County.

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A Success Story from Washtenaw *Direct Service Grant*

“My name is Chad and I am in the 7th grade. When my mom died this year I was alone because my dad is in prison. I was really lucky that my uncle agreed to be my guardian. I went from a really good student to failing and couldn't play school sports. When my uncle tried to talk to me I slammed the door or put in my headphones. At our court hearing the judge recommended The Family Assistance Program to help us communicate.



My counselor helped me to see that I am angry at my mother for leaving me and we are working on me forgiving her. I still mess up but I can say I'm sorry now when I do. I miss my mom every day but I'm trying not to let it ruin my chance of a good life. I go to a group with other kids with parents who died and I talk to my counselor.”

The Family Assistance Program is a multi-component, developmentally focused, competency enhancement program that targets families with school aged children who are at high risk for early development of conduct problems which could result in abuse and neglect by the parent.

Facts about The Family Assistance Program:

- To date we have provided support to over 120 families
- The local Department of Social Services recognized the program as best practice for the prevention of child abuse and neglect
- Our goal is to give people the skills to talk to each other before problems escalate to abuse

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An Insight into our Manistee County Local Council *Manistee County Family Advocates, Inc*

- Is a group of individuals committed to ensuring the health, safety and well being of the children in Manistee County.
- The mission of the MCFA is to prevent child abuse and neglect through education, advocacy, resource development and collaboration.
- The primary focus is to develop and support interventions which empower families to provide safe and nurturing environments for the children of Manistee County.

Interventions Supported in Part by MCFA throughout its 26 years as a local council for the Children's Trust Fund :

- 40 Assets
- Bubbylonian Encounter
- Baby Think It Over
- Family Festivals
- Parenting Education
- Good Touch/ Bad Touch
- Violence Prevention
- Well Baby Check Ups
- Mandated Reporters Education
- Infant Safety Programs
- Warm Up Magic Ride
- Pinwheels for Prevention
- Safe Sleep

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An Insight into Care House
The Macomb County Child Advocacy Center



The mission of Care House is to prevent and reduce the incidence and trauma of child sexual and physical abuse in Macomb County through collaborative, multidisciplinary and effective family-centered activities.

Care House serves as the Designated Local Council for the Michigan Children's Trust Fund; offering child abuse prevention education and training in Macomb County.

Care House also helps child victims of sexual and severe physical abuse and their families to heal by providing a child-friendly place for services, including the coordination of forensic interviews, crisis counseling, individual and group therapy, court advocacy and referrals to community resources.

Care House...providing hope and healing to child victims of sexual and physical abuse and their families, and empowering the community to keep children safe.

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A CTF Success Story from Washtenaw County
Direct Service Grant

“My wife and I both served in Iraq, while our little girls stayed with the grandparents. My wife had been on tour for three months when her unit was hit by a direct explosive device. She went from an independent and super competent woman to someone who required extensive assistance, because of residual brain injury. I tried to be patient but more times than I like to admit I lost my temper.



The family was sent us to The Family Advocacy Program. They had a team that came into our home and taught us how to parent and how to communicate with each other in our new roles. I learned how to cook, clean and do laundry, and admit when I was tired and needed help. (This is really hard for a Latino man!) My wife learned how to establish routines with the girls with daily cues and to not get frustrated with herself. Today we're a different family, but still together in a loving way thanks to The Family Advocacy Program. I am a better husband and father because of their help. The girls are normal, happy-go-lucky kids; my wife volunteers at their school and is the assistant Daisy troupe leader; we are part of a great church community, and my wife and I have plans to renew our vows.

Facts about Washtenaw County Direct Service Program

- Currently serve over 120 families.
- Washtenaw DHS recognizes this program as a best practice for the prevention of child abuse and neglect.
- Families are referred from the various community human services and agencies, and most importantly from past families.
- Our goal is to give people the skills to be good parents so their children can enjoy the benefits that come from a stable home.

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A CTF Success Story from Detroit Parent Network *Direct Service Grant*

“Two years ago I went to Youthville, the building where Detroit Parent Network is located.. My family and I were looking to enroll our children into Youthville’s programming. We found about Detroit Parent Network while visiting the building. I joined the organization but did not participate. Last year my life was falling apart and I felt defeated. During that same time I was at my moms washing Dishes. As I washed the dishes I prayed and felt God tell me to go to Detroit Parent Network. I went to their office on a Monday morning. I found out about Sista 2 Sista, a Parents Anonymous Support group. I attended a meeting and felt welcomed and respected. The support was overwhelming. The group is wonderful and educational. I cannot say enough about the support I received from Detroit Parent Network and the support group. “

Facts about Detroit Parent Network

- An informative and educational organization for parents
- Provide Support to parents and children
- Support Groups
- Children’s Activities
- Resource and Referral information

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An Insight into our Mackinac County Child Protection Roundtable

The Roundtable was established in 1983 to bring together individuals with expertise in various disciplines to address the problems of child abuse and neglect in Mackinac County. Their mission is to develop healthy and well being individuals and families and provide prevention and intervention through programs, materials and other community resources.

In 2009 the Roundtable provided:

- Six bi-monthly newsletters were produced and distributed to 2,400 residents in Mackinac County.
- Project Back Pack helped 124 students get ready for school. Volunteers filled back packs with school supplies, personal hygiene items, new outfits and shoes. The estimated donated cost was \$10,000.
- A 7 - week Summer Day Camp provided educational and fitness activities and field trips to youth ages 7 – 12.
- In celebration of Parent Awareness Month the Roundtable sponsors an annual Parent Appreciation Dinner. This event involves all human service agencies who share information with parents attending the dinner and an educational keynote speaker addresses children’s issues. Last year the topics were: How to Raise a Healthy Child and Challenging Behaviors.
- Roundtable Child Abuse Awareness events include: Pinwheel Garden; Strike Out Child Abuse (free bowling for youth); and the Ice Follies.
- Annual Mandated Reporter Trainings are held in specific areas of Mackinac County. Last year 35 Engadine school teacher/staff participated.

***All children should have the right to a safe and happy childhood.
It should be a time of love, laughter, and learning...***

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An Insight into our Luce County Local Council

Luce County Programs:

- Provide newborn baby kits to new parents including Never Shake a Baby information, safety and child development brochures along with other items for a newborn
- Promote Child Abuse awareness month through pinwheel garden and pinwheels for prevention campaign
- Print and distribute Teen Help cards to middle and high school students
- Support summer food program to supplement nutritious food to families with children in need during the summer months
- Support program that teaches youth to swim each summer
- Provide dental rinse program to elementary students



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An Insight into our Allegan County Local Council

Since 1983, Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center has provided child abuse and neglect prevention services to the Allegan County community.

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center is responsible for:

- Provides Mandated Reporter training throughout the County.
- Prevention Education Classes are taught to 1,500 elementary, middle school and high school students on the topics of body safety, domestic violence/healthy relationships, internet safety, and bullying.
- Distributes brochures on the Never, Never Shake a Baby Campaign
- Initiated an Infant Safe Sleep campaign throughout the county with the help of doctor's offices and other community members
- Distribute over 3,000 child abuse prevention materials through a county wide park party.

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center planted pinwheels for Child Abuse Prevention Month



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An Insight into our Alpena & Presque Isle County Local Council

Since 1978, the Alpena & Presque Isle CA/N Team has provided parents and children in Northeast Michigan with opportunities to learn and grow stronger. With support from the CTF Team in Lansing, our council had another busy year in 2009.

We utilized more than 350 volunteers to:

- Continue our collaboration with the Alpena Exchange Club to support local programs that prevent child abuse and neglect
- Serve 1,485 adults at the Alpena Baby Pantry
- Support education services for 264 parents and 140 children
- Distribute information on child abuse prevention to 1,050 people at information fairs throughout the year
- Provide Mandated Reporter Training to 45 professionals in the community
- Deliver more than 1,000 child development information packets to new parents
- Distribute 700 copies of our quarterly newsletter

“I think the baby pantry is amazing. When I was 17 and my twins were born 26 days early and we had no premie clothing or diapers that were small enough, they really helped me out.”



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An Insight into our Jackson County Local Council

Since 1977, the Council has provided diverse services to the families and residents of Jackson County. Over the years the needs of our community have changed and the Council has also changed to meet those needs. In 2009, the Council actively worked with community members and families in a variety of ways.....

- Continued collaboration with the Jackson Exchange Club to support local programs and events that prevent child abuse and neglect
- Supported parenting education services to adolescents and their parents through the Nurturing Parenting Program
- Provide Mandated Reporter Training to professionals across the county
- Reached over 3750 people through booths and fairs on child abuse and neglect prevention
- Distributed over 1000 pieces of prevention literature through over a dozen presentations to community groups
- Supported 2 FREE family events, providing over 500 parents and child with positive interaction activities
- Agency is represented on several community collaboration committees

2010 has been busy already and we look forward to presenting and providing valuable information to even more families and community members.

Give us a call for more information, 517-788-4239.

Signature Auction Event



An Insight into our Ionia County Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN)

ICAN creates public awareness and understanding of child abuse and neglect, and stimulates the expansion and coordination of services that strengthen children and their families.

Over the last year the ICAN Council has provided funding for:

- Parenting Classes for at-risk families throughout the county
- “Kidz Have Rights” Sexual Abuse Prevention Program for all 3rd graders
- 1,500 audio CDs that contain a plethora of parenting information for at-risk families
- A community Baby Pantry which has served over 200 families
- Awareness and Education of child abuse and neglect along with the recruitment of new foster homes
- The Annual “ICAN Picnic” which hosts a day full of event for 130 at-risk youth from all over the county

Signature Auction Event



An Insight into our Barry County Local Council

Since 1978 The Child Abuse Prevention Council of Barry County has been a leader in the community helping to eliminate and prevent all forms of child abuse and neglect through awareness, advocacy and education.

With support from the CTF Team in Lansing our council has been able to do great things in 2009 including:

- Pierre the Pelican newsletters served 589 families by sending 3,018 newsletters about developmental stages to parents
- CRIB (Crib Resource in Barry) Program continues to save families from the tragic loss of a baby due to roll-over or suffocation from co-sleeping arrangements. We placed 35 crib sets, 4 mattresses and 10 youth beds this year.
- Family Workshop Series in January through April reached 187 adults and 151 children with training in four different communities and four different subjects.
- 400 “What to Expect the First Year” books were placed with new parents.
- The Baby Basics education about Shaken Baby Syndrome reached 391 eighth graders in our school systems.

“Thank you for letting me take your Shaken Baby Syndrome class and teaching me a lot about preventing it. Without you, I wouldn’t have been able to get the good grade I got. From this project, I learned that just a little help, like spreading awareness about child abuse and baby abuse can help people stop, or prevent from doing it.”



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An Insight into our Bay County Local Council

The Bay County Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect has been helping the community to prevent child abuse and neglect since 1983 through education and intervention. Throughout the years the Council has provided many services and programs to Bay County children and families.

In 2009, programs of the Bay County Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect:

- Coordinated and facilitated a sexual abuse prevention program to 2nd and 4th graders
- Provided education to local groups on child abuse and neglect in their community
- Provided 201 forensic interviews of children
- Provided crisis counseling to 616 children and families
- Distributed over 1,000 informational brochures to the community
- Presented a sexual abuse prevention program to over 70 people



“Thank you so much for being there for my family. We are grateful to have this place and these services. I didn't know where to turn. You helped me out when I really needed it.”



Signature Auction Event



An Insight into our Ingham County Local Council: *Child & Family Services, Capital Area*

Since 1911 the Child & Family Services, Capital Area has been a leader, helping to educate, support and champion healthy children and families, within the county. Last year (2009) the council:

- Provided educational activities and services to 1,521 adults and 1,579 children in the community
- Provided mandated reporter training to 24 community professionals.
- Produced and distributed 3,935 newsletters in Ingham County.
- Supported a community Baby Pantry which served 778 parents.

“I love the Family Growth Center! I have no family that can help me out with the kids and the FGC is a parent stress reducing lifesaver. I can drop my children off and go to the doctor or help out with my grandfather at the nursing home. I also have learned a lot through their parenting classes on how to be a positive and loving parent! Thank you FGC and Children's Trust Fund!”



Signature Auction Event



An Insight into our Huron County Child Abuse/Neglect Council *Providing Education, Support and Assistance*

Since 1985 the Huron County CA/N Council has educated, supported and assisted families and professionals in Huron County.

Facts about the Huron County CAN Council in 2009 :

- Raised \$26,676.76 through donations and fundraising.
- Provided mandated reporter trainings to 225 professionals and parents.
- Distributed \$17,250 for family programming through mini-grants.
- Supported a community Baby Pantry which served nearly 700 parents.
- Provided a \$1,000 scholarship to a county resident to further her education in a field related to child development.



Signature Auction Event



An Insight into our Chippewa County Local Council *Chippewa County Council for Youth & Families*

Our Council was established in 1985 and since that time we have played a crucial role in developing programs that suit our county, community-by-community, neighborhood-by-neighborhood in efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect. Our latest family outreach project is called “Welcome Wee Ones.”

Here are a few key points about this project:

- Our goal is to reach every baby born in Chippewa County to present them with a Welcome Wee Ones bag, free of charge!
- Included is a Parent Resource Binder, which provides information regarding safety & first aid, healthcare, how to nurture your children, and age appropriate activities you can do with your children.
- Also included in the bag are items such as electrical outlet covers, a medicine spoon, books, toys, and information about local community resources that are available to parents.



“I’ve used the binder over and over. I refer to it often for information regarding my son, from coughs and colds to milestones he should be reaching in his development. It is a wealth of knowledge and a must for any new parent.”

Signature Auction Event



An Insight into our Clare County Local Council

The Clare County Youth Council is comprised completely of volunteers from the community. Our council holds a Community Baby Shower each year for parents who are pregnant or have a child under the age of 1. We have an annual three day parenting class called Parent Boot Camp. We are running a Teen Parent Support Group for parents who are under 21 years of age. The support group meets bi-weekly and provides information to the parents by having guest speakers and doing group activities. We provide Mandated Reporter training along with the Department of Human Services. We provide training using the Shaken Baby, Drug Affected and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome simulators. We also provide infant simulators to local schools to use in the classroom.

“I think you did an awesome job and as a member of Clare County I would like to say thanks”

- Parent in Attendance at Community Baby Shower

Signature Auction Event



An Insight into our Gratiot County Local Council *Child Advocacy of Central Michigan*

Since 1976 Child Advocacy of Central Michigan has been working to improve the welfare of children and their families through support and education for the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

Last year (2009) the council:

- Provided parenting classes for any Gratiot County Resident looking to improve their parenting skills.
- Provided support groups for parents, including a support group for Foster, Adoptive and Relative Care parents.
- Provided car seat safety checks and installation of child safety seats.
- Provided the “Happiest Baby on the Block Class” to help reduce incidents of Shaken Baby Syndrome in Gratiot County.
- Provided a series of safety lessons through the “Protect Yourself Program” to area elementary school children.
- Participated in the annual “Back to School Event” to provide students with free back to school supplies.
- Provided the “Life Skills” program for teenagers. Teaching teens the skills needed to one day live independently.



“Thank you for talking about protecting myself. I hope I don’t talk to strangers or let them trick me. If they try to talk to me or trick me I’ll say, “No”, I’ll get away, and tell someone.”

Written in a letter to Child Advocacy by a 3rd Grader at Ithaca North Elementary School.

Signature Auction Event



An Insight into our Genesee County Local Council

The Weiss Advocacy Center is a newly-merged organization that has brought together two well-established and highly respected child welfare agencies in Genesee County: the Consortium on Child Abuse and Neglect (established in 1974 as the local Council for the Children's Trust Fund), and the Child Advocacy Center of Genesee County.

Among our greatest accomplishments in 2009, we:

- Distributed thousands of information packets and provided training on safe sleep and shaken baby syndrome
- Launched a faith-based initiative to ensure that sanctuaries were safe places for children and to involve the faith community in child abuse prevention efforts
- Hosted free Nurturing Parent classes for struggling families
- Served on local collaborative bodies to strengthen our local "baby court" program and to host a community-wide baby shower

*"It's about helping a child
replace a life
of hurt with a life of hope,"
says a volunteer.*



Signature Auction Event



An Insight into our Clinton County Local Council *The Clinton County Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect (CAN Council)*

The Clinton CAN Council has been active in collaborating to provide prevention service and information in Clinton County since the early 1980s.

Last year (2009) the council:

- Provided mandated reporter training to 120 community professionals.
- Distributed over 600 packets on child development and parenting to participants at the Healthy Families Community Fair in October.
- Collaborated in providing 24 parent education and anger management classes in Clinton County.
- Honors a local community member at a **Champion for Children Breakfast** each April in recognition of our commitment to Child Abuse Prevention in Clinton County.



2010 Champion for Children

*D.J. Logan, local teacher and advocate for children,
receiving award from CAN coordinator Jessica Austin*

Signature Auction Event



An Insight into our Newborns Program of Delta County

Welcome Newborn's Program Mission:

A collaborative effort to provide Delta County parents of newborns with information about child development and community resources.

In 2009 we provided:

- 288 Free Tote Bags to new parents following their baby's birth
- 288 Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention brochures
- 3,845 Free research based parenting newsletters mailed directly to parents
- 288 Period of P.U.R.P.L.E. Crying DVD's (Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention) were included in the tote bags
- 288 New families enrolled into the Welcome Newborns program, of this number, 264 home visits were completed
- 12 sessions were held at the OB prenatal classes at our local hospital and we provided education on Shaken Baby Syndrome and Child Abuse Prevention.
- 3 Child Abuse Prevention displays were provided at Wellness Fairs



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An Insight into our Eaton County Local Council

Since our inception in 1985, our mission has been/is to prevent child abuse & neglect in our community by raising public awareness about child abuse through education, collaboration and advocacy.

- In area schools we use prevention programs such as *Babylonian Encounter* to teach over 1,200 children about the sense of human touch, from good touch to bad touch.
- The *Real Men Rock* initiative uses some well recognized men to get out the message that "parenting is the toughest job you'll ever love...but it's hard work!"
- Our *Service to Children Award* recognizes community individuals for their service and dedication to area children
- Throughout Eaton County the *Don't Shake Me, You Might Break Me Program* teaches over 8,000 of families about the danger of shaking a baby or child.
- Our *Youth Resource Cards* are distributed to schools, law enforcement, educators, health organizations and medical providers in Eaton & Ingham counties.
- Our website gives all sorts of information about our Council, our programs, upcoming events and valuable family resources
- We organize and participate in community events such as *Community Breakfast Series, Safe Kids Day, Parenting Awareness Month and Child Abuse Prevention Month..* When possible we partner with businesses, county agencies, school districts and law enforcement to provide prevention and parenting information to large groups of people at one time.

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