



Children's Trust Fund  
Protecting Michigan's Children

For Immediate Release  
Aug. 10, 2009

Contact: Kristyn Ladd  
(517) 373-8880

## **Children's Trust Fund gearing up for event to help Michigan children during challenging economic times**

*Tickets available for Signature Event; online auction open for bids*

**LANSING**—Representatives and volunteers for the Children's Trust Fund encourage everyone to attend the seventh-annual Children's Trust Fund Signature Event on Wednesday, Sept. 30 to help fund child abuse prevention efforts in Michigan.

Individuals interested in supporting the charitable event can now bid on items at an online auction or buy tickets to attend the event at [www.michigan.gov/ctfsignature](http://www.michigan.gov/ctfsignature).

Michigan families have an even greater need for education and assistance during these challenging times than in the past, said Michael Foley, executive director of the Children's Trust Fund.

“Unfortunately, many children in Michigan experience abuse and neglect every day, and the problem grows when state residents face difficult economic hardships,” said Foley. “As unemployment increases, often times so does child abuse. We want to make sure that parents and families have resources available to help our children have safe and healthy environments—the Signature Event is one of the main ways we can help make this possible.”

The online auction began Aug. 10 and ends at midnight on Sept. 28. Items featured include a Grand Traverse Resort and Spa Golf Getaway, tickets to the University of Michigan vs. Purdue football game, a Potter Park Zoo “Zookeeper for a Day” job shadowing package, Lansing Symphony packages, and many other great auction items.

Tickets to the Signature Event are \$100 per person. Beginning at 5 p.m. at the Lansing Center, the event will feature silent and live auctions with amazing items, such as a trip to visit the set of the popular television drama *Lost* in Hawaii; a stay at a villa in Jamaica with a private cook; a ride for two aboard the WJR news jetcopter; and various university sporting packages.

“The Children's Trust Fund is helping thousands of children across Michigan,” Foley said. “We rely on the generous support from sponsors and contributors to raise funds to help protect them. I encourage state residents to help by checking out the online auction or attending the Signature Event.”

Sen. Randy Richardville, R-Monroe; Sen. Martha Scott, D-Highland Park; Sen. Patty Birkholz, R-Saugatuck Township; Sen. Michael Prusi, D-Ishpeming; Rep. Bill Rogers, R-Brighton; Rep. Barb Byrum, D-Onondaga; Rep. Dave Hildenbrand, R-Lowell; Rep. Dan Scripps, D-Leland; and Children's Trust Fund Board Chair Nancy Moody are co-chairing the fundraiser.

The CTF is the only statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect in Michigan. Since 1982, the organization has raised more than \$80 million and provided support to more than 8 million Michigan children and families.

For more information about the Signature Event or to purchase tickets, bid on online auction items, or follow the event on Facebook or Twitter, visit [www.michigan.gov/ctfsignature](http://www.michigan.gov/ctfsignature).

###