



Children's Trust Fund

Protecting Michigan's Children

NEWS BRIEFS

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New Local Council Grant Monitor

CTF is pleased to announce that Emily S. Wachsberger has joined CTF as the new local council grant monitor. Emily started on June 30. She brings a variety of skills and experiences that will benefit CTF and the local councils. Her education history includes a B.S. in Education from the State University at New York and a Masters in Counseling from Michigan State University. She has several years of experience as a clinical therapist in private clinics as well as at the Veterans Administration and Wayne State University. As a Project Management Consultant for Analysts International, she managed the MDOT EGrAMS process and provided technical assistance and trainings. Emily's email is wachsbergere@michigan.gov and her phone number is 517.335.0671. Please join the CTF staff in welcoming Emily!



CTF Welcomes Three New Councils

Three local councils are joining CTF this year! The Cass County Youth Council, Northeast Michigan Community Partnership Inc. (Alcona County), and the Human Resources Authority (Menominee County) completed the designation agreement process and will be joining CTF as Tier I councils. Cass and Menominee counties are reactivated councils, while Alcona is a newly established council. CTF looks forward to these new partnerships and the opportunity to better serve and protect children in these counties.

Local Council Tier Movement Update

At the July 28 Board meeting, CTF will make recommendations for up to ten Tier I councils to move to Tier II status. All applications have been reviewed, and councils may be contacted in early July for additional information. If your council is contacted, please respond promptly so that CTF can move forward with the recommendation process. CTF will make the tier movement announcement in late July!

Join the Local Council Work Group!

CTF is extending an invitation to all councils to join the Local Council Work Group. This standing work group held its first meeting in March 2008 and meets on a monthly basis via teleconference. Topics of discussion include policies, prevention programs and initiatives, best practices, quarterly reports, and training and technical assistance needs. The meetings have proven to be an effective means of communication and collaboration, and CTF looks forward to strengthening this initiative even more. The group is co-chaired by Annemarie Valdez, Executive Director of Child's Hope (Wayne County-Out), and Rich Bearup, CTF Executive Director.

The next Local Council Work Group meeting will take place on Thursday, August 7, at 10:00 a.m. The call-in number is 1.877.336.1828 and passcode 8088351. All councils are welcome to join in this call. Please contact Rich Bearup or Annemarie Valdez if you have any questions about the work group.

3rd Quarter EGrAMS Reports

A reminder that 3rd quarter EGrAMS reports are due July 21 (July 20 falls on a Sunday). Please be sure to report all of your cash and in-kind matches in budgeted line items. If you have questions or concerns about your budget or match dollars, please contact Janell Thelen (for local councils) or Sylvia Brown Jones (for direct service grantees).

Note: All 2nd quarter EGrAMS reports must be submitted and revised (if corrections were needed) before you can enter your 3rd quarter reports.

Reminder: Update Your Local Council Contact Information

In order for CTF to maintain effective and timely communication with our grantees, it is important to update your contact information if there are any changes in leadership, authorized signatory, email or mailing address, phone number, etc. The Local Council Notice of Change form is available on the CTF website. Click the "Programs" link on the left-hand side of the webpage and then access the document under "Grant Administration."

Never Shake a Baby



CTF is interested in enhancing online advocacy of the Never Shake a Baby program. If a section of your website is dedicated to the Never Shake a Baby prevention program, please contact Alan Stokes. Information will be referenced at the CTF webpage at <http://www.michigan.gov/ctf/0,1607,7-196-40188-137313--,00.html>.

To see examples of what CTF partners are currently doing for this initiative, please visit the Kalamazoo Child Abuse and Neglect Council at <http://www.kcan.org/nevershake.html> and the St. Clair County Child Abuse/Neglect Council, Inc. at <http://www.sccstopchildabuse.org/baby.htm>.

CAP Month 2009--Help Us Plan!

What would you like to see for Child Abuse Prevention Month in 2009? CTF is starting to plan events and resources for April 2009, and we would like to hear your ideas and suggestions for improvement. The brief CAP Month survey is a critical way for us to receive your feedback. The survey is available in Word format at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/ctf/CAP_Month_Survey_238296_7.doc or in PDF format at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/ctf/21-Survey_226423_7.pdf. This survey will help us determine the usefulness of the CAP Month toolkit and identify ways to strengthen our CAP Month initiative for 2009.

Workshop for Families of Children with Disabilities

The Early On Center for Higher Education is pleased to announce a workshop for family members of young children with disabilities. "Telling Our Stories" is a one-day workshop designed to prepare family members to tell their stories to future professionals. Participants will learn to organize and share their experiences in a presentation to college students who will work with families of children, birth to age three, with disabilities. The invited trainer for the day is Jan Moss, Director of the Oklahoma Center for Learning and Leadership, a national trainer, a parent, and the developer of the "Telling Our Stories" training.

There is no cost to participants. State guidelines for hourly reimbursement and mileage will be followed. The workshop will take place on Wednesday, August 20, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Early On Training and TA office in Dewitt. Enrollment is very limited. Register online at <http://eotta.ccesa.org/Event.php?ID=1317> or call 866.334.5437.

CAN Council of Saginaw County Hold Successful Awareness Event



During the third week in May, 997 pairs of children's shoes were on display outside Macy's at the Fashion Square Mall in Saginaw Township. The shoes represented the number of children sexually abused, severely physically abused, or neglected in Saginaw County in 2007.

Shoes were collected by students from Freeland School District, Hemlock School District, Kempton Elementary, and several staff members of the CAN Council. The council would like to give a special thank you to the Fashion Square Mall for providing the space for this thought-provoking display.

PCA America Partners with FTD

FTD has entered into a partnership in which PCA America and participating chapters can post a link to FTD.com on their home page and earn 15% of every sale on any FTD product generated through that link. FTD also will implement a parallel version of this campaign for orders placed by phone. The online and phone campaigns will be in effect year-round.

CTF will place a special FTD partnership banner on the CTF homepage. When someone clicks on the FTD link on our website, they will be taken to a version of FTD's website branded with PCA Michigan's name. This new feature will be arriving on the CTF website soon!

Foster Parents Helped Over 148 Children



Siegmund Gretzner and his wife, Phyllis, served as foster parents to 148 Michigan children between 1955 and 1974. Siegmund, better known as “Sig,” passed away on May 28, 2008. He was a teacher and football coach at Lowrey High School in Dearborn for 35 years. Phyllis actively campaigned for legislative changes within Michigan’s foster care system. Sig’s daughter, Katherine Hren, presented CTF with memorial donations to be used to support child abuse prevention in the state. CTF thanks the Gretzner family for their support of CTF and its programs.

MI-AIMH Addresses Fatherhood Issues

The Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health (MI-AIMH) is a non-profit, professional organization that engages volunteer professionals from multiple disciplines to carry out its mission to promote and support nurturing relationships for all infants. Since 1977, MI-AIMH has been a leader in promoting social and emotional health by sponsoring training and educational activities, statewide conferences, publication of the *Infant Mental Health Journal* and quarterly *Infant Crier* newsletter, clinical retreats, and social policy initiatives.

As interest in infancy and early parenthood has grown and the need for services to enhance the healthy development of infants and toddlers has multiplied, MI-AIMH has grown to include MI-AIMH Endorsement (IMH-E™). IMH-E™ is designed to recognize and document the development of infant and family professionals within an organized system of culturally sensitive, relationship-based, infant mental health learning and work experiences. MI-AIMH’s website is a rich resource for professionals in all disciplines who use infant mental health principles in their work. The most recent issue of MI-AIMH’s *Infant Crier* newsletter is largely devoted to fatherhood issues. To access this publication free, visit the MI-AIHM website at www.mi-aimh.org.

CTF Annual Training Update

CTF is awaiting approval from DHS to hold the annual training. As noted in the April 2008 *News Briefs*, CTF currently has October 15 (geared toward local councils) and October 16 (geared toward direct service grantees) on hold with the Henry Center in East Lansing.

CTF is also awaiting approval on a FRIENDS online logic model course. CTF hopes to make this course available to all local councils free of cost.

Upcoming Events

July 25: The Grand Traverse County Sheriff Department, in partnership with The Tri-County Coalition for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (TCCPCAN), will host an 8-hour course entitled "Understanding the Language of Children: Communication and Linguistic Sensitivity in Forensic Interviews." The presentation will cover linguistics and interview techniques to help attendees learn how to effectively communicate with children and adolescents.

The training is appropriate for law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, Children's Protective Services (CPS) workers, and social workers. It will take place at the Hagerty Center at Northwestern Michigan College, 715 E. Front Street, Traverse City. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and the course will take place from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The cost is \$25.00 and includes morning refreshments and lunch. More information can be found online at <http://www.tccpcan.com/>.

July 28: The CTF Board meeting will take place at 1:30 p.m. at DTE Energy, 101 S. Washington Square, Ste. 700, Lansing, MI 48933.

August 20: The Early On Center for Higher Education will hold a workshop for family members of young children with disabilities called "Telling Our Stories." The one-day workshop is designed to prepare family members to tell their stories to future professionals. See workshop description on page 3 for details.

Save the Date: CTF Signature Event September 25, 2008

The Cherish the Children Signature Event will take place from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 25. The event will take place at the Kellogg Center at Michigan State University. For more information or to volunteer for the event, contact Nicole Search at CTF 517.490.4439 or SearchN@michigan.gov.



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