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Children's Trust Fund Ninth Annual Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event – May 18, 2011



In a two days the Children's Trust Fund ninth annual Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event will take place at the Lansing Center in downtown Lansing. Doors open and silent auction begins at 5:00 p.m. The event is one of the largest charitable events of the greater Lansing area and certainly one not to be missed!

Tickets for this fun-filled evening, for a great cause, are still available and can be purchased online for \$125 by visiting our website at www.michigan.gov/ctfauction.

The event includes both silent and live auctions. Click on the following link, www.ctfsignatureevent.weebly.com for a live auction preview of the many fabulous items that you can bid on at this year's event. Our motto is, *bid often and bid high - it's for the kids!* Please share the above link with family and friends and invite them to attend this year's Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event on May 18.

We are thrilled to announce four Premier Sponsors this year at \$30,000 each – DTE Energy Foundation, Dick and Betsy DeVos Family Foundation, Great Lakes Capital Fund, and Jackson National Life Insurance Company. To date, \$306,000 has been raised through cash sponsorships for the prevention of child abuse in Michigan! We could not do it without the tremendous support of all of our sponsors. For a list of this year's sponsors as of May 10, 2011 see page 6. For additional information on the Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event please contact Tricia Headley, Fund Development Coordinator, at headleyp@michigan.gov or 517-241-7226.

We hope to see you on May 18!

Sgt. Heather Schultz Appointed to CTF Board

Sgt. Heather Schultz has been appointed to represent the Director of the Michigan State Police, Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue, on the Children's Trust Fund Board. She replaces Sgt. Greg Jones who served with distinction for several years. The Children's Trust Fund welcomes Sgt. Schultz and looks forward to ongoing collaboration with the Michigan State Police.



CAP Month Prevention Awareness Day Events

Prior to CTF's April 12, 2011 Prevention Awareness Day Governor Rick Snyder officially proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month in Michigan. This affirmation of the vital work being done all across the state contributed to the enthusiasm of the day's events. It was also convenient that we were able to arrange for a sun-shiny day, albeit a bit windy.

This year's Prevention Awareness Day event brought over 300 energized people to the rally, procession and the planting of a pinwheel garden. The event's theme was once more, *The Power of One*. The event started at 11:00 am at the Capitol to the fantastic music of the Michigan State University's Trombone choir under the direction of Ava Ordman. CTF Executive Director Mike Foley hosted and then introduced notable speakers, including Senator Randy Richardville, Representative Lesia Liss, the newly appointed CTF Board Chair Lori Wortz, Lansing Exchange Club President and Ingham County local council coordinator Jim Paparella, and Danny and Angie Ogas recipients of services funded by a CTF direct services grant. Interspersed between speakers, attendees had the pleasure of listening to the sweet, melodic voices of the Lansing Averill Elementary School 5th grade chorus directed by Emily Schuster-Wachsberger, and the amazing Lansing Community College choir under the leadership of Meredith Bowen. A number of local councils participated in the event including Allegan, Barry, Gratiot, Huron, Ingham, Jackson, Kent, Livingston, Oakland, Ottawa, Saginaw, Washtenaw, Wexford, and others. Following the speeches and music, attendees were led on a walk to the traffic circle at Washington and Michigan Avenues where they planted a pinwheel garden in support of child abuse prevention.

Additionally, a Legislative Education Day (LED) component was added to Prevention Awareness Day which afforded over 130 CTF grantees and other child advocates an opportunity to educate legislators about prevention needs and current programming across the state. Prior to LED an informative Webinar workshop was provided by Michele Corey of Michigan's Children to help prepare participants to efficiently and effectively speak to legislators. CTF thanks the support of Michigan's Children with the successful Legislative Education Day endeavor.

We are proud and pleased that this year we had sponsors to help make the event the success it was. Our highest levels of sponsorship came from:

- WKAR assisting us with marketing and messaging efforts;
- Dean Transportation who provided two buses, one that picked up attendees in Saginaw and another picking up folks in Holland and Hastings;
- The Grand Traverse Pie Company that provided us over 300 pieces of their delicious Michigan apple and cherry pies; and
- The Lansing Exchange Club who donated funds which, in part, enabled CTF to provide food and gas money to those attending the events.

Other supporters/sponsors contributing to the events were; the Delta Sigma Tau, Beta Beta sorority from Michigan State University, Lansing Community College, Absopure, Pizza Hut, Jersey Giant Submarine, Besco Water, Lenny's Sub Shop, Bell's Greek Pizza, Stan Setas Produce Company and Cottage Inn Pizza.

CTF also wishes to thank the City of Lansing for their support for the procession and pinwheel portion of the event, continuing a wonderful tradition that started three years ago. Other thanks go to the Lansing State Journal, WILX, Parenting Awareness Michigan, Safe Delivery, Michigan PTSO, and Downtown Lansing.

This year's event was certainly a collaborative effort with deep appreciation to the CTF Local Council, CAP Month Workgroup that met monthly and provided input, feedback and helped steer the event. A special thank-you also goes to the CTF team, who all put forth their best to help ensure an outstanding event. In addition to helping with the many planning efforts, they were very busy on April 12th picking up pizzas, deli trays or water, passing out pinwheels and flyers, setting up the buffet tables and a whole host of other duties as well.

With the Power of (Each) One, we broke a record, more than doubling, the number of participants. Prevention Awareness Day epitomized the commitment and love that Michigan has for all its children.

We All Can Help Prevent Child Abuse

By Karmel Puzzuoli, CTF Partner

I thought parenting would be easy. For me, anyway - smart and resourceful that I was! I had taken a few psychology classes, had a bit of therapy to flush out my childhood demons and was an avid reader of child development books. Ready to show the world. When told parenting was a tough job, I didn't believe it. OK, maybe it's not easy, I thought, but it can't be exactly difficult. After all, billions of us have reproduced. How can something so basic be complicated?

As a new mom with visions of my baby girl attending Harvard Medical School, I poked my chin up, strapped my little infant into a European-style baby backpack, and set out to become the kind of mom I was so sure I'd be. No one should be surprised to learn that the haughty, naive young woman of seven years ago had the wind knocked out of her.

To make a long story short, my oldest child has a severe disability. Other challenges have come into my life as well, including single parenthood. By necessity, I've had to become less judgmental of myself and others. I'm the opposite of who I used to be - I don't judge other parents, other mothers or other families. And I don't want them to judge me either, because just about anyone could identify the 1,700 mistakes I've made along the way.

Instead, I've come to regard the issues of parenting, child abuse and all the messy family stuff therein as a community issue. I think communities play a huge role in reducing risk factors for child abuse.

I'm from rural Kansas, so I understand that placing family drama into the community's lap makes certain folks alarmed. I know, probably by heart, the opposite argument - that westward-moving, industrious American dreamers are always responsible for things that happen behind closed doors.

What I've learned is that communities thrive when people are invested in each other's well-being, when we go outside our own subdivisions. If parenting is the most difficult job in the world, don't we want to help those who are undergoing that challenge? Life in Michigan is synonymous with difficulty. The stress of survival, with unemployment and poverty, makes my days of lumbering with a baby in a Kelty Carrier Backpack seem like a cakewalk.

At-risk families are served by several great organizations in Calhoun County. I know many of their heroes - some serve on our board of directors. Their dedication is high, and so are their hopes. From Inasmuch House, to Family & Children Services, to S.A.F.E. Place and Sexual Assault Services (to name a mere few), there are people who have not given up on this community and are working to better it. They are champions for children, and we want them to have the resources they need.

The Calhoun Child Abuse/Neglect Prevention Council's function is to raise awareness and money to fight for the children of Calhoun County, before abuse and neglect happen, and if it has already happened, to prevent it from happening again. We don't do this alone. We work with agencies and organizations all over Calhoun County to bring services to at-risk children and families.

Parenting and child abuse are both mundane and emotionally charged. After all, we were all children once. We each carry remnants of our past. Then again, many of us are parents who wrestle with lofty dreams and sometimes unforgiving realities. Parenting is indeed the most difficult job on earth. As a community, our responsibility is to lend as much support and encouragement to the people who are doing the toughest job on earth, even if some, like me, started out thinking it would be a lot easier than it turned out to be.

Karmel Puzzuoli is the director of the Calhoun Child Abuse/Neglect Prevention Council. The website is calhounprevention.org and the phone number is 269-962-2562. This article originally appeared in the Battle Creek Enquirer.com.

Direct Service Program of the Month

Parent to Parent of Southwest Michigan



Having *Parent to Parent* match me up with Melanie as a mentor has helped my family immensely. This has impacted our lives by knowing that we are not the only ones that struggle with a child with autism. I remember one time calling up Melanie because of being frustrated when talking with other parents on their views of discipline. She reassured me that my son Bryce's autism always comes first. Now, when other parents' views bother me, I remind myself that each child reacts differently. My mentor always starts by saying, "this is what works for me." This has helped me feel like she can relate to my situation. I was also anxious for my husband Kurt to meet her because he is a stay at home dad, and I thought if he could relate to someone, it might help him to. He said many times that, "he feels like he is stranded on a deserted island." Now he does not have to feel so alone. My mentor Melanie has helped our family in many ways, but most of all, just reassuring us that we are not alone in this journey.

– Program Participant

For More Information Contact:

Jayne Weaver

Program Director

Parent to Parent of Southwest Michigan

(269) 345-8950

Web: <http://www.p2pswmi.org/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Parent-to-Parent-of-SW-MI/113384616477>

Kappa Delta Sorority Gives Substantial Donation to CTF



Kappa Delta Sorority's national philanthropy is Prevent Child Abuse America. Annually, Kappa Deltas across the nation hold Shamrock Events that fundraise to support the prevention of child abuse. 80% of proceeds go to a local organization that works for the prevention of child abuse while 20% goes to National Prevent Child Abuse America.

Wayne State University's chapter, Gamma Omicron, of Kappa Delta held a week-long fundraiser selling Pinwheels for Prevention and raising money for the cause with on-campus events and an off-campus bowling fundraiser. In total, Gamma Omicron raised almost \$5000 with \$3584.46 going to the Children's Trust Fund.

The success of this fundraiser would not have been possible without the support of Wayne State University students, the Gamma Omicron Chapter of Kappa Delta Sorority, and the hard work and planning of Maria Khan, Shamrock Chair, and Rhiannon Lewis, Vice President-Community Service. Thank-you Gamma Omicron! Your hard work is making a difference for Michigan's children and families!



Children's Trust Fund 2011 Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event- May 18, 2011

Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event Sponsor - \$30,000



Premiere Sponsors - \$30,000



Official Sponsor - \$25,000

Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council

- . International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
- . International Union of Operating Engineers Local 324
- . Michigan Laborers' District Council
- . Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights



Headline Sponsor - \$5,000-\$8,000

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- CSG Government Solutions, Inc.
- Deloitte
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- EMC Corporation
- Kunz, Leigh and Associates
- Michigan Education Special Services Association
- Michigan Health & Hospital Association
- Petal & Forrest
- Telecommunications Association of Michigan
- Unisys
- WWP Strategies

Marquee Sponsor – \$10,000-\$15,000

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- Byrum & Fisk Advocacy Communications
- Comcast Michigan Region
- Edgar and Elsa Prince Foundation
- Hewlett Packard
- Meijer
- Michigan State Housing Development Authority

Banner Sponsor - \$1,000

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- Dewpoint
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- Henry Ford Health System
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- Michigan Association of Health Plans
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- Public Policy Associates
- Public Sector Consultants
- Secchia Family Foundation
- Spectrum Health
- State Farm Insurance
- Truscott Rossman
- UFCW Local 951 Foundation
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Title Sponsor - \$2,500

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- Litehouse, Inc.
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- Public Affairs Associates
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- Whitmer Charitable Foundation

Autograph Sponsor - \$500

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- Larc Properties, Inc.
- Michigan Council for Maternal & Child Health
- Michigan Electric Cooperative Association
- MSU Dept. of Advertising, Public Relations, and Retailing
- Michigan Primary Care Association
- Real America Development LLC
- RLJ Management Co., Inc.
- Bill Schuette, Attorney General
- TEKsystems

Table Hosts

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Spotlight Sponsor - \$1,500

- CIGNA
- Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association

Table Hosts - Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event - May 18, 2011

Greg and Rosalie Baran
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Representative Lesia Liss
Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville
Paul Shaheen
Sparrow Health System

The Protective Factors Survey: A Tool for Evaluating Prevention Programs

You are invited by the Children's Trust Fund of Michigan to join this informative webinar on Tuesday, May 24, from 1:00-2:30 EDT. The FRIENDS National Resource Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) will be presenting information on the Protective Factors Survey (PFS). The PFS is a self-administered, pre-post evaluation tool for use with caregivers receiving child maltreatment prevention services.

The PFS measures protective factors in five areas: family functioning/resiliency, social support, concrete support, nurturing and attachment, and knowledge of parenting/child development. This tool has established reliability and validity and is available on the public domain at www.friendsnrc.org.

This webinar will cover:

- . The development of the PFS, including reliability/validity findings
- . How to use the survey and the database
- . Other states' experiences using the PFS

The FRIENDS National Resource Center and the Children's Trust Fund look forward to your participation in this webinar.

“Parents Partnering for Change” Leadership Training

On June 21-22, CTF will host a “Parents Partnering for Change” leadership training for parents and caregivers in CTF-funded programs. Comments from last year’s training include:

“I would recommend any parent if they get the chance to do the training. I would do it again.”

“Thank you, this training was very important in my new mission as an advocate.”

“I will definitely share the information I learned with other parents, friends, family, and also the center that I’m involved in.”

The training will be held in Okemos, Michigan. Spaces are available for 18 parents on a first-come, first-serve basis. As of May 12, this opportunity is available for parents involved with our Direct Services Grantees and the Local CAN Council Network. Please contact Sylvia Brown Jones at CTF for more information.

Key Dates

May

May 18: The Children’s Trust Fund will hold the Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event at 5:00 p.m. at the Lansing Center in Lansing, Michigan. See page 1 for more information.

May 26: The Child Abuse Council of Muskegon will hold its 2nd Annual Tee Up for Kids Golf Outing. Contact Vicki at 231-728-6410 for more information.

May 28: The Andre Bosse Center will host a concert with country singer Sara Evans on May 28, 2011 at Val Du Lakes in Mears, Michigan. The show starts at 5:45pm. Tickets are on sale at both Hart and Ludington centers and online at www.valdulakes.showclix.com for \$34.50 or \$47.50.

May 30: The Children’s Trust Fund office will be closed for the Memorial Day holiday.

June

June 1: CTF will host a Local Council Work Group Meeting via conference call at 1:00p.m. Please contact the office at 517-373-4320 for call-in instructions.

June 6: CTF will host a Tier 3 Local Council Work Group Meeting via conference call and webinar at 1:00p.m. Please contact the office at 517-373-4320 for call-in instructions.

Please submit dates for future events to Alan Stokes by June

Communications/Team News

CTF Says Goodbye to Intern Lena Shacks-Glover



CTF has been lucky that, since September 2010, Lena Shacks-Glover worked as an intern with us as part of her Wayne State University, Masters of Social Work degree program. She was an enthusiastic learner and contributed much to the team. Lena was engaged in a number of activities including; researching data for the Local Council Tier III Social Media Toolkit project, helping with CAP Month coordination

efforts, assisting with Circle of Parents, office administration, and other activities too numerous to name. Of notable interest was a class project Lena designed, a comprehensive program for helping fathers coming out of prison to (re)establish positive relationships with their children. The detailed program design addressed issues including employment, substance abuse, bonding, communicating and others. This writer believes that her intelligent and creative program shows great promise. Her positive attitude, work ethic and professionalism were an asset to CTF. She is currently in the process of seeking employment. We know that Lena will soon find a meaningful position where she, as an MSW, will make a great contribution and positively impact the people of Michigan. We wish Lena all the best in her future endeavors.



Children's Trust Fund
Protecting Michigan's Children



Prevent Child Abuse
Michigan

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