



Prevention Innovations Since 1982

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Two CTF Board Members Complete Term

The Children's Trust Fund wishes to recognize the valuable service of two board members who complete their term of service this month. They have dedicated many hours of service on the board in protecting children in Michigan from child abuse and neglect. The State Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board, also known as Children's Trust Fund, is responsible for developing a plan to distribute funds to statewide education programs that work to develop awareness of child abuse and neglect.



Douglas M. Paterson of East Lansing, president of The Paterson Group, represented the general public on the CTF Board. He also served as the chairperson of the Finance Committee. Douglas Paterson served as a gubernatorial appointee since 2007. Prior to that he served for over a decade on the CTF Board as a representative of the Michigan State Department of Community Health.



Trisha L. Stein of Dearborn, self-employed public policy and political consultant, represented the general public on the CTF Board since 2009. She also served as the chairperson of the Program Committee.

Direct Service Program of the Month

The Guidance Center's My Time Respite Care Program



Jessica promised herself she would finish all of her college coursework before her fourth child was born. She did not want to be worried about papers and finals during the first few weeks of her new child's life. She wanted to spend time bonding with her baby and making sure that her older children adjusted to their new sibling's presence in the family. Jessica was determined to reach her goal, even though she was unsure of how she would find the time.

Then Jessica heard about The Guidance Center's My Time Respite Care program. The program allows parents of children with a severe emotional disturbance (SED) diagnosis to arrange for up to six hours per week of free child care at either The Guidance Center's Southgate or River Rouge location. The first time Jessica dropped her toddler son off at the program, she was nervous and unsure of what to expect. Yet those feelings quickly subsided as she realized that, for the first time since her son was born, she had quiet time to do homework during the day while her older children were in school. Completing coursework during the day was a luxury for Jessica, and she decided to take full advantage of the opportunity.

By the time Jessica's second child was born, she had met her goal and completed all of her assignments for the semester. Now when she brings her toddler son to Respite Care, she is making time to bond with her new baby, and giving her son something he craves. She says her son calls the Respite program "group" and regularly asks to go back there. Jessica is happy to grant this wish because she knows that her son benefits from the program and from the consistency of attending regularly. With so many changes in the home as a result of the new sibling, it is nice for her son to remain a regular part of Respite Care.

The Guidance Center's Respite Care Program is available Monday-Friday afternoons and evenings at the Southgate and River Rouge Community Resource Centers. The program was created as the result of a Direct Service grant awarded by the Children's Trust Fund. Without this grant, the program would not be possible. For more information or to register for the program, please contact Hillary Richardson at 734-709-4603 or hrichardson@guidance-center.net.

You can follow the ongoing work of The Guidance Center at the following online sites.

Website: www.guidance-center.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Guidance-Center/172632338172>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/#!/guidance_center

Direct Service Program Review

During FY 2011, there were 17 direct service grantees that provided community based services throughout Michigan to strengthen at risk families. Collectively, these grantees served more than 2,400 families, 3,000 children (over 200 had special needs), and provided more than 17,800 direct services. The official numbers will be reported in the CTF 2012 Annual Report.

Additionally, most of our grantees participated in the newly developed, bi-monthly DS work group teleconferencing. These sessions provided participants the opportunity to discuss and share ideas on topics such as EGrAMS quarterly reports, parent leadership, peer review, supporting the Prevention Awareness CAP Month initiative, technical assistance issues, and DS grantee announcements.

For FY 2012 beginning October 1st, the CTF support for some of our DS grantee prevention partners ended. Grant agreements ended for the following 11 grantees: Canton Township, Detroit Parent Network, Genesee County ISD, Lutheran Child and Family Service of Michigan, Parent to Parent of SW Michigan, Pathways, MI, Trinity Health/St. Joseph Mercy, Student Advocacy Center of Michigan, Traverse City Area Public Schools, West Midland Family Center, and Women's Resource Center.

As a result of the high quality services these grantees provided we have been pleased to learn that many will continue with alternative sources of funding. CTF will continue our relationship with these grantees to assess ways in which we can support their continued efforts. Here are a few highlights from these grantees which demonstrate the impact they have in the lives of the children and families they served.

- **Student Advocacy Center of Michigan** identified two recipients of their Family Advocacy Services, US Army Latino soldiers Daniel and Angie Ogas, to speak on the Capitol steps at this year's Prevention Awareness CAP month celebration. Daniel spoke on how these services helped him to learn how to cook, clean and do laundry, because his wife was injured while in Iraq. Daniel stated that it was "...really hard for a Latino man.. Today we are a different family, but still together in a loving way thanks to the Family Advocacy Program."

- During FY 11 several of the 11 DS grantees had their services featured in the CTF News Briefs as Grants of the Month:

- Canton Township** – Building families through BLOCK Positive Youth Program services were provided to 257 at risk youths who had received field trip services so that they could experience places they had never been, i.e., Toledo Zoo, local water parks, and canoeing. Pre and post surveys identified that participants perception of sense of belonging had a positive increase, awareness of community resources improved, ability to work out conflicts improved, and they experienced an enhanced positive attitude towards the future.

- Detroit Parent Network** – Parent Education and Support Group & Positive Youth Development Program used the Parent Anonymous Curriculum for services to 197 at risk families and 337 children. The participants reported that they felt less stress, more positive attitudes, were better able to deal with life's problems, and were parenting their children better and had strengthen their relationships with their children.

- Lutheran Child and Family Service of Michigan** – Pailalen (means peace) Parent Education Program services were provided by bilingual service workers to 244 Latino families and 642 children. The participants gained a better understanding of their children's needs, and they were provided with parenting skills to manage their children's behavior, enhance their family well-being, and gained better interaction/access with community resources. The participants reported some of the following outcomes: having decrease use of physical discipline, increased and improved community involvement, and gained increased ability in managing parental anger.

- Pathways, MI** – Circle of Parents Mutual Self-Help Support Groups Parent Education services to 211 families and 65 children, towards strengthening parenting skills, developing healthy and nurturing relationships with family, and promoting increasing fatherhood involvement. The participants reported learning new parenting skills/ideas, how it helped to know they were not alone in their parenting challenges, and that the program helped them to reach their goals for their families. One participant comment identified in the annual CTF Client Satisfaction Survey stated, "It taught me a lot of parenting skills that I didn't know about and helped me realize that to better parent, I need to change my thinking and change the way I do things."

As we said good bye to these grantees, we welcomed in the following seven new grantees at the October 17th Annual CTF Training Conference, whose services will begin January 1, 2012: Arbor Circle, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Marquette and Alger Counties, Inc, CARE of Southeastern Michigan, Huron County Health Department, Lenawee ISD, Livingston Area Council Against Spouse Abuse, Inc, and Van Buren ISD.

Here's wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season, and all the best in 2012!

Local Councils

Reflections on 2011

How can anyone believe that it is December already! Even though time has flown by, 2011 saw many laudable accomplishments. A few are noted below.

What started in 2010 as “tier projects” evolved this past year into a joint tier workgroup to create a Social Media Toolkit. This past fall, the first of many documents for the toolkit was uploaded into the CTF Local Council Resource Library available at <http://www.michigan.gov/ctf/0,1607,7-196-40188-241352--,00.html>. This document contains a major listing of social media outlets that are listed in separate categories of blogging, meetings/events, networking and other. Information contained about each listing includes: site usage, strengths, limitations, costs, technical requirements and assistance, commentary and local council usage. The workgroup continues to be committed to this long-term project.

For the second year in a row, spring and summer brought another round of Local Council regional meetings across the state. Over 50 local councils came together to share and collaborate with their regional peers. Also, they provided valuable feedback on how CTF will move forward with future peer sharing endeavors. In anticipation of the new three-year application cycle process which will begin in March 2012, relevant topics—including needs assessments and continuous quality improvement (or as I called it “walking the quality road”)—were explored at the training. Thoughtful and mutually supportive ideas were shared by the attendees.

Even though this past year’s economy presented financial challenges, Local Councils rose to the occasion with their creative and tireless fundraising endeavors. Reporting data showed that 166 fundraising events were held that raised \$1,375,644. Although there are far too many to completely list, below are a few examples of the great fundraising efforts by Local Councils.

- During CAP Month, the Gratiot County Child Protection Council held their annual Charity Basketball Event with between 400-500 attendees.
- During CAP Month, the Mackinac County Child Protection Roundtable sold pinwheels at a local gas station to raise awareness and funds for the council.
- In October, the Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect of Jackson County hosted a Mystery Dinner Fundraiser titled Dead Men Don’t Get Dessert.
- Also in October, the Washtenaw County Council for Children held its 17th annual Chocolate and Wine Tasting fundraiser.
- A number of Local Councils participated in roof-sits which raised significant revenue to support local prevention programming. The B-93 Roof-Sit raised funds that were distributed amongst a number of West Michigan Local Councils. In addition, the St. Clair County CAN Council, Inc. and the CAN Council of Saginaw County both sponsored roof-sits.

The CAP Month Workgroup was a part of an overall CTF team effort to create a memorable and productive CAP Month. The workgroup helped create the CAP Month Toolkit which is distributed to all Local Councils. The workgroup also contributed to helping make the third annual Prevention Awareness Day (PrAD) event the best to date. Over 300 people came to the Capitol to rally in support of Michigan’s children and families. Attendees heard great music from the Michigan State University’s Brass Choir, Lansing Community College’s choir and the Averill Elementary School All-stars choir. Meaningful speeches were given by Senator Randy Richardville, Representative Lesia Liss, CTF Board Chair Lori Wortz, Lansing Exchange Club President and Ingham County Local Council coordinator Jim Paparella, and Danny and Angie Ogas who participate in a CTF-funded Direct Service program. After the speeches, 300 adults and children paraded down Michigan Avenue holding pinwheels which were then planted in a pinwheel garden. Local Councils from many areas of the state came to Lansing to be part of this great event, including Allegan, Barry, Gratiot, Huron, Ingham, Jackson, Kent, Livingston, Oakland, Ottawa, Saginaw, Washtenaw, Wexford, and others.

For the first time in a number of years, all Michigan counties had CTF Local Councils. This important achievement enables each and every area of the state to have a strong and dedicated local child abuse and neglect prevention voice within our communities.

For another year, I have been blessed to work with the Michigan CTF Local Councils. I deeply appreciate the time, dedication and work of each council and the individuals who work on behalf of the child abuse and neglect prevention cause.

Here’s wishing you and yours a very happy holiday season and all the best in 2012!

Training and Communications

Muskegon Local Council Presentation Helps Uncover Abuse

The Child Abuse Council of Muskegon County provided a school presentation about sexual abuse in 2010. As a result of the presentation a girl came forward sharing that she had been receiving hidden abuse for years. Recently the perpetrator was convicted of the child abuse. The full story is available at http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2011/12/sexual_abuse_presentation_in_s.html. The Child Abuse Council of Muskegon County is to be commended for their effective work at protecting children.

Infant Safe Sleep Practices During Holidays

The Department of Community Health has issued recommendations for Infant Safe Sleep Practices during the holidays. Recommendations include making sure the baby sleeps in a crib, using a firm mattress, making sure the baby lays on his or her back, and using a sleep sack instead of a blanket. A press release about these recommendations in more detail is at <http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-8347-267307--,00.html>. For more information, visit www.michigan.gov/safesleep or call 2-1-1.

Click on the Logo to Access Links to CTF Social Media Pages



Children's Trust Fund
Protecting Michigan's Children



Prevent Child Abuse Michigan

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