



CAP Month Prevention Awareness Day Events

Governor Gretchen Whitmer has proclaimed April in Michigan (as it is nationwide) Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month. Last year 37,738 children were reported to have been abused in Michigan.

On Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 11AM at the Lansing State Capitol steps the Michigan Children's Trust Fund (CTF) will host its 11th annual Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Day rally consisting of notable speakers, entertainment, a procession down Michigan Avenue and the planting of a pinwheel garden at the traffic circle at Michigan and Washington Avenues. This auspicious and upbeat occasion will be hosted by Suzanne Greenberg, the new Children's Trust Fund executive director. Our guest speakers include; Michigan State House Representatives Joe Tate and Mary Whiteford, MDHHS Director Robert Gordon, Muskegon, ISD Superintendent John Severson, and CTF Board Chair Randy Richardville. This year's entertainment includes celebrity gospel singer Charles Laster as well as the Lansing Community College Choir, Lansing's Dwight Rich Middle School Choir and Elder Don Lyon, a Native American singer and drummer. Local organizations will also have tables where they will distribute informational materials including. Media is invited and this year we are thrilled that Maranda of Grand Rapids' WOOD Television will be featuring the event.

With your help, our goal is to welcome at least 800 attendees, caring residents from all walks of life, diverse backgrounds and political persuasions coming together solely as Michiganders to convey the message that all our children deserve safe and nurturing childhoods so they achieve their full potential. It is often easy to get a crowd at the Capitol to complain. Let's also show that we can gather in significant numbers to honor and celebrate our most precious resource, our children!

There are a number of benefits from coming to this momentous occasion, including:

- 1) You and/or your organization stand together with and gain support from other like-minded entities;
- 2) You have an opportunity to listen to knowledgeable individuals which we believe will be informative and inspiring;
- 3) You become a collective prevention presence, taking responsibility for and asserting its vital importance in the health and well-being of each ONE of our children;

This year's Prevention Awareness Day theme is once more "The Power of ONE," a belief that one person, one community, one dollar, and one action can help protect children from abuse and neglect throughout Michigan. Your continued support, participation, and/or sponsorship for this rally event serves as a positive reminder that each ONE of us is taking personal responsibility to help create safe and nurturing environments in which to raise happy and healthy children.

CTF is truly grateful for the generous contributions that make our Prevention Awareness Day possible including Grand Traverse Pie Company, The Lansing Area Exchange Club, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (Division of Maternal and Infant Health), the First Methodist Church (Capitol Ave, Lansing), Lansing Community College, Stan Setas Produce, Cottage Inn Pizza, Fresh Thyme Supermarket and Absopure Water.

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Local Councils Child Abuse Prevention Month Activities



CTF Local Councils across the state are engaged in sponsoring and/or hosting a number of events to bring special attention and meaning to CAP Month. In addition to the hundreds of pinwheel gardens being “planted” other activities include: educational conferences, fundraisers, public awareness events; prevention billboards posted on highways, family activity events and expos, pinwheel cut-out coloring contests, walk-runs, faith-based worship services with a prevention theme, processions and many others. To help the Local Councils in their efforts a toolkit was created which is available for public use as well at the following link, www.michigan.gov/preventchildabuse.

The 73 CTF Local Councils serving Michigan's 83 counties are dedicated organizations committed to the notion that all children deserve to grow up in safe and nurturing environments. CTF is honored to work with these committed councils. For more information about the CTF Local Council please visit, www.michigan.gov/ctf.





Children's Trust Fund

Protecting Michigan's Children

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