



**Children's Trust Fund**  
Protecting Michigan's Children



**CTF NEWS BRIEF**

**April 2016**

## **Child Abuse Prevention Month Rally Capitol Steps This Tuesday the 19th at 11:00**

It's going to be a beautiful spring day and we're anticipating a rally that will be our biggest and best! Our goal this year is to have at least 600 attendees. What a wonderful sight it would be to have hundreds of people (including legislators from both major parties) coming together to convey the message that all our children deserve to grow up in safe, nurturing homes so that they may achieve their full potential.



### **The Rally**

Speakers will include advocates, practitioners, bi-partisan legislative leadership including;

- **Dr. Dena Nazer**; Chief of the Child Protection Team of Children's Hospital
- **Senators Arlan Meekhof (R) and Jim Ananich (D)**
- **Dr. Stanley Chase**; Chair of Greater Lansing Exchange Club
- **Nick Lyon**; Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- **Deb Shaughnessy**; Board member of the Children's Trust Fund

Music and Entertainment will be provided by;

- **Lansing Community Jazz Ensemble**,
- **Michigan State University's Community Music School Band**
- **Lansing Averill Elementary School All-stars chorus**

### **The Procession**

Immediately following the Capitol steps rally, the hundreds of participants will raise their pinwheels and march together for a few blocks in downtown Lansing to plant a pinwheel garden. As we plant our pinwheel "gardens" (the national symbol of child abuse and neglect prevention), let's remind ourselves that all children deserve great childhoods because they are our future. The procession is visually beautiful and is a powerful way to make the statement that all children have an absolute right to the nurturing, support and guidance that bring forth their greatest potential.

### **And...Bring a Book**

As April is also recognized as the Month of the Young Child, we are partnering this year with the Michigan Department of Education. MDE is collecting new and slightly used children's books. We encourage you to bring a book to donate.

**Join us for a day of fun, learning and advocacy for Michigan's children and families!**

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## Wayne State University's Kappa Delta Sorority Has Successful Shamrock Pancake Breakfast for CTF

Gamma Omicron Chapter of Kappa Delta hosted their second annual Shamrock Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, March 5th, 2016 to support Prevent Child Abuse America and the Children's Trust Fund, which serves as Michigan's chapter. Over \$5,500 was raised at the event. "This was our biggest event to date with over 300 people in attendance," said Miranda Bottesi of the Kappa Delta Sorority. "We also almost tripled the amount we raised last year for the prevention of child abuse!!" The Children's Trust Fund is grateful for the partnership of Kappa Delta at Wayne State University. Since 2005, the Sorority has held dozens of different fundraisers and raised approximately \$25,000 to help the Children's Trust Fund protect children in Michigan. That is the equivalent of entirely funding one of our important Direct Service grants for six months.



2016 Omicron Chapter of Kappa Delta – Wayne State University

## Local 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 a number of pinwheel gardens being “planted” other activities include: educational conferences, fundraising, 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, <http://tinyurl.com/CAPToolkit> .

The 73 CTF Local Councils 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](http://www.michigan.gov/ctf).

Visit our  
**eStore**

We all know April showers bring May flowers, but did you know that the Month of April also represents the National Child Abuse Prevention Month?



Show your support and purchase a pinwheel pin for only \$3.00 each. The pinwheel is the universal symbol for the prevention of child abuse and neglect. All proceeds go back to Children’s Trust Fund in helping prevent child abuse & neglect!

To purchase this item and/or to check out other CTF great items in our kids store please go to the website listed below. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kristie Feldpausch at 517-373-4320.

[Michigan.gov/ctf](http://Michigan.gov/ctf)



All children deserve great childhoods because our children are our future.



# Oakland Family Services Parents as Teachers

*Each month we feature the amazing work of a Direct Services Grantee or a Local Council. Our Direct Services Grant in Oakland County uses the evidenced based Parents As Teachers model.*



**"Building Brighter Futures"**

Oakland Family Services offers the free, in-home program to children who are at risk for abuse and neglect. In Oakland County, the number of children in investigated families for child abuse/neglect increased from 11,833 to 13,640 between 2006 and 2014, according to the Kids Count in Michigan Data Book 2016.

Parents as Teachers is designed to help reduce the risk of abuse and neglect by involving families with infants, toddlers and young children in activities that encourage growth in language, social and emotional development. Parent educators, who make weekly or bi-weekly visits, also may link families with other agencies that provide basic necessities, such as food and housing.

Parent Rachel Koller is thankful for the program, which has helped her 2-year-old daughter, Amelia.

"I do have some relief now," she said. "Before I felt like I didn't know what to do. The pediatrician tells you she is missing her milestones but doesn't tell you what to do. I feel now I have someone to guide me through. It is good for me. It was my first time as a mom, and I didn't know what things to try. It was nice for (our parent educator) to tell me things to work on and that Amelia will be fine."

Parents as Teachers also offers monthly playgroups to encourage families to work and play together. Activities include different areas of development – gross motor (large muscles), fine motor (small muscles) and story time (literacy).



"It teaches me a lot," said Jenny Hansen, who brings her 1-year-old son, Brian, and 5-year-old son, Matthew, to the playgroups regularly. "I watch how other parents do things with their kids."

To qualify, at least three of 15 different risk factors must be met. The risk factors are conditions that cause enough stress on a household and a parent-child relationship that abuse and neglect could result.

"All of those stresses can lead to abuse and neglect and having someone support you at your home during those difficult times lessens the likelihood they will engage in abuse and neglect," said Kris Kasperski, Director of Early Childhood Services at Oakland Family Services.

Oakland Family Services is thankful the Children's Trust Fund has provided a three-year grant, which has allowed the agency to expand its services by hiring an additional parent educator.

For more information on Oakland Family Services and Parents as Teachers contact:

Oakland Family Services, 114 Orchard Lake Rd. Pontiac, MI 48341-2244  
Kris Kasperski (kkasperski@ofsfamily.org) or Teri Dorta (tdorta@ofsfamily.org)

5 Website: [www.ofsfamily.org](http://www.ofsfamily.org)



## Children's Trust Fund

Protecting Michigan's Children



**Prevent Child Abuse**  
Michigan™

### Michigan CTF Team

**Michael Foley, MSW**  
**517.335.1938**  
**FoleyM2@michigan.gov**  
*Executive Director*

**Scott Addison, BA**  
**517.335.7770**  
**AddisonS1@michigan.gov**  
*Contract Monitor*

**Patricia Headley, BS**  
**517.241.7226**  
**HeadleyP@michigan.gov**  
*Fund Development Coordinator*  
*Auction Coordinator*

**Alan Stokes, MBA, MDiv**  
**517.241.7793**  
**StokesA@michigan.gov**  
*Research Analyst*  
*Internet Media Coordinator*

**Emily S. Wachsberger, MA, LPC**  
**517.335.0671**  
**WachsbergerE@michigan.gov**  
*Local Council Grant Coordinator*  
*CAP Month Coordinator*

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month  
The Power of One You Can Make a Difference

[mictf.org](http://mictf.org)

[michigan.gov/CTF](http://michigan.gov/CTF)

235 S. Grand Ave, Suite 1411, P.O. Box 30037, Lansing, MI 48909  
800-CHILDREN or 517-373-4320 Fax: 517-241-7038

