



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



**CTF NEWS**

**July 24, 2017**

## Looking Back: Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Day Event a Success!



Prior to The Children's Trust Fund's April 27, 2017 Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Day event Governor Rick Snyder officially proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month in Michigan. This year amid sunshine (although a bit breezier than desired) a record number, 370 people, attended this year's rally, procession and the planting of a pinwheel garden event at the Lansing Capitol Building steps. The event's theme was once more, The Power of One.

The event began with terrific music at 10:30am to the fantastic musical sounds of the Michigan State University Community Music School Band. They played while people gathered and had the opportunity to visit a number of information tables from like-minded prevention agencies. Then at 11:00am CTF executive director Mike Foley kicked off the formal portion of the event by hosting and introducing distinguished speakers including: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Director Nick Lyon; CTF Board Chair Randy Richardville, State Senators Judy Emmons and Curtis Hertel, MDHHS Director of Interagency Collaboration Bill Hardiman, and Mary Fales a parent who spoke from the heart about losing a child due to unsafe sleep practices. Each speaker's words articulated the need and importance of child maltreatment prevention and how each ONE of us can make a positive difference in the life of a child.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Randy Richardville**  
Chair, Representing  
Business Community

**Krista Beach**  
Representing General  
Public

**Sean Bertolino**  
Representing Parents

**Lynette Biery**  
Representing  
Dept. of Health and  
Human Services

**William Dubas**  
Representing Labor

**Roxanna Duntley-Matos**  
Representing General  
Public

**Lena Epstein**  
Representing  
General Public

**Stanley Hannah**  
Representing Business  
Community

**Bill Hardiman**  
Representing  
Dept. of Health and  
Human Services

**Alisande Henry**  
Representing  
Dept. of Education

**Karl T. Ieuter**  
Representing  
General Public

**Lauren Rakolta**  
Representing  
Business Community

**Sgt. Kim Vetter**  
Representing the  
Director of State Police

*Continued on Page 2*

Attendees had the pleasure of listening to the wonderfully strong voices of the Lansing Averill Elementary School's Allstars chorus directed by Ginney Stokes. This year marks the 9th year of the event and the 9th year that Averill Elementary School has partnered with us for this event. They sang and for the first time, danced with one of their songs. Also, for the 6th year in a row, the Lansing Community College's LCC Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Kelly Stuble-Clark performed with melodic grace and harmonic precision. Their last song Blue Skies by Irving Berlin was apropos as it reflected an enthusiastic crowd, all with hope and optimism for the future of Michigan's children and families.

Following the speeches and music, attendees and speakers were led on a walk, led by the Averill Elementary Allstars to the traffic circle at Washington and Michigan Avenues where they planted a pinwheel garden in support of child abuse prevention. The MI Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Communications created a video and took pictures throughout the event. Media also covered the event. Afterwards participants were invited to join CTF for a pizza, fruit, yummy desserts, and water luncheon. A number of CTF Local Councils, MDHHS employees, Exchange Club members, and others gave their time and effort to travel from near and far to this auspicious occasion.

We are truly grateful for the generosity of so many sponsors which allowed us to have such a successful event. Their support enabled us to provide food and gas money to those attending the event. Sponsors included:

- The Grand Traverse Pie Company that provided us a grand amount of delicious pies, pastries and cookies (all were amazing);
- The Lansing Exchange Club;
- Initiating Communities Helping Area Neighborhoods Gain Empowerment (ICHANGE);
- Lansing Community College;
- Cottage Inn Pizza;
- Absopure Water and;
- Stan Setas Produce Company

CTF also wishes to thank Lansing's Mayor Virg Bernero, Department of Parks and Recreation Coordinator Carol Munroe along with Rich Lamay, city police and other officials for their continued support for the procession and pinwheel garden portion of the event, continuing a wonderful tradition that started nine years ago. The Michigan State Capitol staff including, Barbara Thumudo and others, were once more helpful and we are grateful for their role in the event's success. Special appreciation goes to MDHHS Communications including; Steve Barosco, Jan Berry, Erica Quealy and Bob Wheaton.

Thanks go to all the event participants. A special thanks and appreciation go to CTF Executive Director Mike Foley and the entire CTF staff team. Without the assistance of the entire CTF team, we wouldn't have such a great event year after year. Also, I am grateful for the ongoing efforts of the CTF Local Council CAP Month Workgroup, a group of Local Council volunteers who take time to help plan and organize the event. Their voice helps shape the character of the entire day's event.

Those sparkling pinwheels spinning in the Pinwheel Garden were a symbolic reminder that our children are our shining future and they all deserve to be safe and nurtured so that each one can grow to reach his or her full potential as adults.

*-- Emily Schuster-Wachsberger*







## Children's Trust Fund

*Protecting Michigan's Children*

### 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*

**Anne Stokes**  
**517.373.7008**  
**StokesA1@michigan.gov**  
*Office Support*  
*Special Projects*

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



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

