



Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Day Event



Governor Gretchen Whitmer officially proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month in Michigan. This year the weather was more than kind when 600 people, attended the Michigan Children's Trust Fund Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Day rally event on April 25, 2019. The event's theme was once more, The Power of One.

Esteemed guest speakers, entertainment a procession, planting of a pinwheel garden, a luncheon and citizens review panel discussion were all components of this special day.

Hundreds of sparkling pinwheels spinning in the Pinwheel Garden were a symbolic reminder that our children are our shining future, deserving safe and nurturing homes so that they may grow to reach their full potential as adults.

See page 2 for additional information about Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Day, 2019.



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

Reginald Bluestein
Representing
Religious Community

William Dubas
Representing Labor

Roxanna Duntley-Matos
Representing
General Public

Stanley Hannah
Representing
Business Community

Bill Hardiman
Representing
Dept. of Health and
Human Services

Sgt. Martin Miller
Representing the
Director of State Police

Lauren Rakolta
Representing
Business Community

Alisande Shrewsbury
Representing
Dept. of Education

Michael Talbot
Representing
Legal Community

Kathleen Trott
Representing
Legal Community

David Zyble
Representing Business
Community

Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Day Event

Continued from Page 1.

At 11:00 a.m., CTF executive director Suzanne Greenberg, the rally's emcee, kicked off the event by introducing distinguished speakers including; United States Senator Debbie Stabenow, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Director Robert Gordon, MI State Representatives Joe Tate and Mary Whiteford, CTF Board Chair Randy Richardville, Muskegon area ISD Superintendent John Severson, and Michigan State University associate professor Estrella Torrez. When now Senator Debbie Stabenow was a state representative in 1982, she co-sponsored bi-partisan legislation that created the Michigan CTF. All the event speakers 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.

Attendees had the pleasure of listening to the wonderfully strong voices of the Dwight Rich School for the Arts Choir directed by Lavonte Heard and the Lansing Community College Choir directed by Jon Ten Brink. We were also honored to have celebrity gospel singers Pastor Charles Laster and his sister Candace Bluestein grace our stage. Finally, we were thrilled to have Ojibwa Elder Don Lyons and jingle dress dancers Raeanne Madison and Maddi Clover perform a healing drum and dance piece. All the performers embodied the spirit of the event.

Following the speeches and music, attendees walked to the traffic circle at Washington and Michigan Avenues where they *planted* a pinwheel garden in support of child abuse prevention, the pinwheel being the national symbol of child abuse and neglect prevention.

That same afternoon we had the unique opportunity to conduct a Citizens Review Panel discussion after CTF hosted a free luncheon to event attendees. This panel discussion brought together citizenry and lawmakers to discuss issues related to the opioid crisis and the role of child maltreatment prevention as part of the solution to this situation.

We are truly grateful for the generosity of so many sponsors which allowed us to have such a successful event including: Grand Traverse Pie Company, the Exchange Club of Greater Lansing, MDHHS Bureau of Family Health Services, United Methodist Church of Lansing, Cottage Inn Pizza, Lansing Community College, Stan Setas Produce, Fresh Thyme Market, Absopure Water, and the United Dairy Industry of MI.



Those sparkling pinwheels spinning in the Pinwheel Garden were a symbolic reminder that our children are our shining future, deserving safe and nurturing homes so that they may grow to reach their full potential as adults.



Children's Trust Fund

Protecting Michigan's Children

**CTF's New Office
Phone # is
517-241-0042**

Michigan CTF Team



Suzanne Greenberg, BA
517.335.1938
GreenbergS@michigan.gov
Executive Director

Scott Addison, BA
517.335.7770
AddisonS1@michigan.gov
Grant Coordinator

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
517.241.9793
StokesA1@michigan.gov
Community Awareness Coordinator
Office Support

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



michigan.gov/CTF

