



Prevention Innovations Since 1982

April, 2015 - Vol. 9, No. 5

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Prevention Awareness Day on April 23!

Governor Rick Snyder has signed the Proclamation and with it, so begins April's Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month. The Governor's Proclamation reminds us that too many of Michigan's Children are victims of child abuse or neglect. At the same time the Proclamation points to the cost effectiveness of supporting vulnerable families including a specific mention of the protective factors approach.

On Thursday, April 23, 2015 at 11AM at the Lansing State Capitol steps CTF will host a Prevention Awareness Day rally, procession down Michigan Avenue and planting of a pinwheel garden at the traffic circle at Michigan and Washington Avenues. The rally portion of the event includes notable speakers including; Chief of Pediatrics of Sparrow Hospital Dr. Stephen Guertin, Nick Lyon, Director of the newly formed Department of Health and Human Services, MI House Representative Lisa Lyons, MI State Senator Rebecca Warren, President of the National Exchange Clubs Tom Karnes, CTF board member and former MI State Senator Bill Hardiman and, CTF Board Chair Lori Wortz. Entertainment will be provided by the Lansing Community College Choir, Michigan State University's Community Music School and the Lansing Averill Elementary School Allstars chorus. A number of local organizations will also have tables where they will distribute informational materials including: Parenting Awareness Michigan, the pediatric residents of Sparrow Hospital, Department of Community Health Dental and Environmental Health Programs, Tomorrow's Child, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Pro Duffers, Safe Delivery, Michigan PTA, Michigan Environmental Council, United Way and others. Media is invited to this event.

Please join us as part of a collective "Power of One" to recognize that; child maltreatment is still very much an issue in Michigan and, to praise the great prevention work being accomplished here. We are also coming together at this event to honor all the children and families of our state. What a wonderful sight it will be to have hundreds of people at the State Capitol, coming together to convey the message that all our children deserve to grow up in safe, nurturing homes so they may grow up to achieve their full potential.

Additionally, A Legislative Education Day (LED) Component to Prevention Awareness Day affording CTF grantees and other child advocates an opportunity to educate legislators about prevention needs and current programming across the state. To register for LED, go to the following website, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LED2015>. To find legislators (so that you may make an appointment to see him or her), go to the online website of the Michigan Legislature or go to the following link, <http://tinyurl.com/o63y84x>. There are no fees to participate in LED. To help prepare participants for LED a Webinar workshop was conducted on March 25th by Michele Corey and Teri Banas of Michigan's Children. It was an interesting and informative session. CTF appreciates and thanks the time Michele and Teri took to plan and lead the session.

Continued on Page 2



Child Abuse Prevention Month Events

CTF is truly grateful for and has received a number of generous cash and/or in-kind donations for Prevention Awareness Day. Those supportive sponsors are listed below by level of giving. They contribute a great deal to the success of this event.

Platinum:

Grand Traverse Pie Company

Gold:

The Lansing Exchange Club

Silver:

The Lansing Area Black Social Workers Association,

Bronze:

Absopure, Cottage Inn Pizza, Stan Setas Produce

CTF continues to accept donations for Prevention Awareness Day. Feel free to contact Emily Schuster-Wachsberger (wachsbergere@michigan.gov, 517-335-0671) with any Prevention Awareness Day and/or Legislative Education Day questions and/or if you wish to make a donation for these special events.

Here's hoping that your Child Abuse Prevention Month is one of; reflection for the prevention needs that still exist, hope that someday all children will grow up in loving and nurturing environments, gratitude for the great prevention work being done all across the state in a variety of venues and, a celebration of all children and families of Michigan. As we plant our pinwheel (the national symbol of child abuse and neglect prevention) "gardens" let's remind ourselves that all children deserve great childhoods because they are our future.

Local Councils Child Abuse Prevention Month Activities



Pinwheel Garden, Clinton County, Michigan

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 website, <http://tinyurl.com/2015CTFCAPMONTH>.

The dedication of the CTF Local Councils to their prevention work is laudable and during CAP Month CTF wishes to extend gratitude to this fine group of 73 councils all dedicated to the notion that healthy and happy children will encourage a more healthy and happy future for us all.

Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Planning for our Signature Auction Event is making excellent progress and we have interesting auction items and to date supports through sponsorships of over \$275,000. See our sponsors starting on page 7.

WHAT: Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event

WHEN: Wednesday, May 13, 2015
5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.



WHERE: Lansing Center, Downtown Lansing
For directions go to <http://lansingcenter.com>

WHY GET INVOLVED: To help protect Michigan's most vulnerable citizens from child abuse and neglect. Your donation can help to make a difference.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

- Join the CTF's Advisory Committee
- Become a Cash or In-kind Sponsor
- Donate or Underwrite an Auction Item
- Host a Table at the Event
- Purchase a Ticket to Attend the Event

Visit www.michigan.gov/ctfsignature to download an auction item, sponsor commitment, table host, or ticket purchase form.

HOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS: Tickets are \$150 each and can be purchased online at Tickets - CTF Auction 2015 or call the CTF office at 1-800-CHILDREN.

Please contact Tricia Headley, CTF Event/Fund Development Manager, at headleyp@michigan.gov, for additional information or to get involved.

The Children's Trust Fund is featuring each month one of our Direct Service Grant Programs that partners with us to prevent child abuse and neglect in Michigan.

Direct Service Grant of the Month

Catholic Charities West Michigan

Muskegon Healthy Families

Healthy Families is a comprehensive secondary prevention and early intervention program designed to reduce child abuse and neglect in new expectant families. The accredited program is part of Healthy Families America which is a national initiative to help parents of newborns get them off to a healthy start. The program is also designed to promote healthy child and family development by reducing risk factors, promoting healthy habits, strengthening parent/child bonds, and empowering the family. We expected to provide services to a minimum of 25 families Fiscal Year 2014 and served 42 families in the program.

Healthy Families program outcomes:

- 99% of pregnant women in the program reported having a primary medical provider.
- 100% of participants reported an increased knowledge of prenatal care visits.
- 96% of pregnant women in the program did complete prenatal visits.
- 100% of participants reported an increased knowledge of pregnancy, health care needs and parenting a baby.

The CTF funded Healthy Families Family Support Worker (FSW) visits the expectant parents in their home weekly and/or bi-weekly depending on the needs of the family. Given this amount of time spent together, trusting relationships form between the FSW and families. One important role of the FSW is to consistently evaluate the family's situation and connect them with needed resources in the community to meet their daily needs such as medical (prenatal) care, financial assistance and employment assistance.

Participants provided the following comments about their experience in the program:

- "My FSW is very helpful and understanding."
- "I cannot think of anything I would want changed, I loved the support my FSW gave my family."
- "They do a great job."
- "FSW was very helpful and helped us understand my pregnancy and how important prenatal care is to have a healthy pregnancy/baby."
- "I loved my support worker – she was very easy to talk to."
- "I learned a lot about pregnancy, since this was my first time being pregnant."
- "I liked the worker coming to my home to talk with me."

Participants in the program also provided feedback such as, they stayed in the program due to the relationship with FSW and felt they were listened to; liked the flexibility of the program; the prenatal information was useful in maintaining a healthy pregnancy and received help in accessing community resources.

For more information on Healthy Families in Muskegon County contact:

Catholic Charities West Michigan
1095 Third Street, Muskegon, MI 49441
Website: www.ccwestmi.org
Monica Marchell, Healthy Families Supervisor
Email: mmarchell@ccwestmi.org

Prevent Child Abuse America Unveils a New Logo



For Child Abuse Prevention Month this April, Prevent Child Abuse America unveiled their new logo and that of their 50 state chapters featuring the pinwheel!

Since the launch of the Pinwheels for Prevention® campaign in April 2008, when the pinwheel was first introduced as the national child abuse prevention symbol, it has come to stand for the great childhoods all children deserve because our children are our future.

And yet as much as the pinwheel moves us, it cannot move on its own. Be the force that moves the pinwheel and help bring about real change for children this April by:

- Volunteering at your local chapter
- Planting your own Pinwheel Garden
- Giving today to support great childhoods for all children

You can help make Child Abuse Prevention Month a great success! To find more information, go to www.preventchildabuse.org



Don't forget, registration for the 2015 Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health's Biennial Conference entitled, "Caring for the Whole Child: Working Together for the Health and Well-Being of Infants, Toddlers, and their Families," will close May 8, 2015.

If you plan on making hotel reservations to attend the conference, be sure book soon to take advantage group rates! Hotel room blocks have varying release dates. Those deadlines can be found on their conference webpage, under Hotel Information.

In addition to Hotel Information, you will find the Registration Brochure and Registration Tutorial on the MI-AIMH webpage to assist you in the registration process. Please download and review these documents before beginning registration for the conference.

We invite you to share this registration information with your networks and colleagues and hope you will be able to participate in what promises to be a wonderful opportunity to explore the health and well-being of infants, toddlers and their families.

Register here: <http://www.vceonline.org/MI-AIMH-Conf-2015>

Kid Store

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? You can show your support to Children's Trust Fund and purchase a pinwheel lapel pin for only \$3.00 each. This stylish lapel pin can go with everything you wear and can be worn all year around. 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 <http://tinyurl.com/CTFKidStore>. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Anne Stokes at 517-373-7008.

CTF Social Media Pages



Children's Trust Fund
Protecting Michigan's Children



See us on
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Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

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