



Prevention Innovations Since 1982

August 2009 - Vol. 3, No. 11

Signature Event – September 30, 2009

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This year's Children's Trust Fund Signature Event, i.e., *Cherish the Children* Auction, will be September 30, 2009, at the Lansing Center, located in downtown Lansing. Doors open and silent auction begins at 5:00 p.m.

This year's event will include both a silent and live auction the night of the event, in addition to an online auction which kicks off on August 7. We are very fortunate to announce that Delta/Northwest Airlines is once again the Official Event Sponsor. Because of their generosity, you will see some new and exciting travel packages such as a trip to Hawaii to be on the set of *Lost*, a week in Jamaica, a beach resort in Cancun, wine tasting through the vineyards of California, and another extraordinary European experience to be announced! Other exciting live auction items include lunch with MSU President Dr. Lou Anna Simon at Cowles House, a large screen T.V., tickets to the Fisher Theatre to see *Jersey Boys*, sports and entertainment packages, and much, much more!

Please note the online auction will kick off on August 7 and will run through September 29. Visit our website regularly as we will be adding new auction items daily!

This year's sponsors, as of August 4, include DTE Energy/Foundation, Great Lakes Capital Fund, Delta/Northwest Airlines, Access, Accident Fund, Blue Cross Blue Shield, CBS Outdoors, Easttown Distributors Company, Jackson National Life Insurance, Johnson & Johnson, Meijer, Michigan Association of Health Plans, Michigan Education Association, Michigan Hospital Association, Michigan State Housing Development Authority, Michigan State Medical Society, MSU Department of Advertising, Public Relations, and Retailing, Plante & Moran, PLLC, Spectrum Health, UFCW Local 951, and the Whitmer Family Endowment.

Tickets for this fun-filled evening, to support a great cause, can be purchased for \$100 online at www.michigan.gov/ctfauction. Invitations to the event will be mailed the week of August 10. Please look for yours....because we truly hope to see you on September 30!

Visit our website at www.michigan.gov/ctfsignature to purchase tickets, donate or purchase auction items, to sponsor or volunteer. If you have any questions regarding the event, please do not hesitate to contact Tricia Headley at headleyp@michigan.gov.

Local Council Programs

LCFY10 Application Renewals

We at CTF wish to express appreciation for all the hard work and effort you've put into completing the 2010-2012 application renewal. This year's renewal presented new opportunities and challenges, and you've done tremendous work to successfully complete your renewals.

After the CTF office approves an application, it then goes to DHS for review. Their review focuses on the application's budget. This effort can take anywhere from 6-8 weeks, culminating with the electronic signature agreement completion. The DHS procedures may lead to a request(s) for additional information or application changes, which would then send the application back to councils for corrections. For that reason, it is very important that you expediently answer email information requests and/or make any corrections and resubmit the application, in order to receive next year's funding in a timely manner. Likewise, if your application has not yet been approved by CTF, please make any requested corrections and resubmit as soon as possible.

Emily Schuster-Wachsberger
Local Council Coordinator

Volunteers Sought

There are still opportunities for local councils to volunteer for the following three sub-committees: Fund Raising, Best Practices/Peer Mentoring, and CAP Month. Your participation and input will impact the direction and outcomes of these endeavors. CTF is grateful for your past volunteer guidance and efforts, which have contributed to our programming. Please contact Emily Wachsberger (wachsbergere@michigan.gov) and/or Sarah Davis (daviss11@michigan.gov) with any questions and/or your choice(s) of sub-committee involvement.

Obligation/Estimated Expenditure Reports

Like last year, you are being asked to complete an Obligation/Estimated Expenditure Report no later than September 10, 2009. This report is necessary in order to secure your council's 4th quarter funding payment for fiscal year 2009.

Note: You may not be able to complete the Obligation Report until all previous quarterly reports are completed. To access the Obligation Report, log into EGrAMS and choose dropdowns, Local Council/Reporting/Progress Reports and click "Go." In the Program field, click the lookup button and choose LC 2007-2 and click "Find." If you wish to see all of your reports for the year, click the "All" radial button to the right of "Status" prior to clicking the "Find" button. You will then see a line in black that says Obligation Report. Click on that line as it is a link to the report. Complete the report, save it, and close out. After closing the report you will be returned to the screen with the black line naming the report. You will then see a submit column. Click in the applicable box and then click the "OK" button at the bottom of the page. Please contact Emily Wachsberger (wachsbergere@michigan.gov) with any questions/concerns.

3rd Quarter Reports

Third quarter reports were due on July 20, 2009. If you've not already done so, please complete and/or correct, and (re)submit. Once all three reports (Expenditure, Activity and Program Register) have been approved, CTF will submit expenditures to DHS.

Iron/Dickinson Caught Being Safe Program

The Children's Trust Fund local council in Iron and Dickson counties is participating in the Fifth Annual "Caught Being Safe" coupon campaign this summer. Their community efforts were recognized in the *Iron Mountain Daily News* and the story is available online at <http://www.ironmountaindailynews.com/page/content.detail/id/508998.html>.

Direct Service Programs

Ongoing thanks and appreciation for your commitment to Michigan's communities!

Sylvia Brown Jones, Direct Services Coordinator

Direct Services Grants

The end of the fiscal year on September 30, 2009, is fast approaching. CTF will need your 4th Quarter FSR estimates by September 10, 2009. Your final, actual FSR, needs to be submitted by October 10, 2009, for a timely payment. Congratulations on your reporting performance. Most of you have completed your 3rd Quarter Reports that were due July 20, 2009. This is close to a 90% performance rating. For those grantees that still have outstanding reports, or corrections are needed, please complete them as quickly as possible.

You have probably seen the "Meet and Greet" notification for the new CTF Executive Director, Mike Foley. I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to meet Mike, and build on your collaborative relationship with your local council and other community partners. You are welcome to attend the Meet and Greet that is nearest to you.

Remember to keep sending in those success stories, announcements, or other related information that can be shared in the *News Briefs*.

Direct Service Success Stories

The August spotlight goes to Big Brothers Big Sisters Michigan Capital Region's Family Mentoring Network program.

Shari Nelson, the program's executive director, shares the following two mentoring stories:

Big Brother Clint and Little Brother Sammy



"Clint has just been a huge help to us. He's taken Sammy sledding, trick-or-treating, ice skating, camping and to see the Harlem Globetrotters. One time Clint offered to fix up our basketball backboard. The next thing I knew, Clint and Sammy were cutting wood, painting and hanging up a brand new one! I really appreciate all the things he does for Sammy—you couldn't have matched my boy with a better person. Sammy feels so safe with him, and he's really started to come out of his shell. They get along so well!"

— Sammy's mother, Alechia

Big Brother C.J. and Little Brother Marton



In 2001, C.J. was matched with Marton, a quiet, reserved 10-year-old who suffered from poor grades in school. Marton began going to the library at Michigan State University with C.J., where they would each study and do their homework. Marton's efforts started to pay off as he began coming home with A's and B's on his report card.

"We worked for years on improving his skills in the classroom and his ability to stay on task. That came to a climax in 2007 when he received a 3.5 grade point average," said C.J. "The look on Marton's face as he handed me his report card...and the joy that we both felt in accomplishing such a goal was phenomenal."

Marton's mother, Tonya, knows the importance of having C.J. in her son's life. "Marton, the eldest of three boys, now sees the importance of education and realizes the discipline and hard work it takes to achieve success," she said. "He already expresses a desire and looks forward to following in C.J.'s footsteps and becoming a Big Brother as well one day."

Zero to Three Programs

M. Jeff Sadler
Zero to Three Administrative Analyst

Zero to Three AAPI/Nurturing Parenting Program In-Service

On July 7, 2009, the Children's Trust Fund hosted an Adult-Adolescent Parenting Inventory (AAPI-2)/Nurturing Parenting Program full day in-service at the Kellogg Center in Lansing. Dr. Stephen Bavelok, PhD, was the guest speaker.



The AAPI is designed to assess the parenting and child-rearing attitudes of adult and adolescent parent and non-parent populations. Based on the known behaviors of abusive parents, responses to the AAPI provide an index of risk for practicing parenting behaviors known to contribute to the maltreatment of children. The present version (AAPI-2) is the revised and re-normed version of the original inventory first published in 1979.

The in-service was very well received by Zero to Three grantees with 73% of participants rating it as above average to superior.



The State Budget Process—Now is the Time to Share Your Stories and Communicate Your Value

The big picture is this. Soon there will be budget targets set, which means that all department appropriations committees will be given a figure for their final appropriations decisions. Resources are tight and seem to be getting tighter with every new revenue-estimating report we hear. That said, our legislative leadership needs to know what's working in their communities. There has been legislative support for Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Funds in the Human Services, Education, and Community Health budgets, but difficult decisions are yet to be made. It is not our role to speak directly to the appropriations process. However, it is our responsibility to assure that our policymakers have good information on which to base their decisions in these difficult times. Here are some things you can do.

Share your stories: We have heard from several programs in which families have shared the value of being involved with a program or service funded by Zero to Three. If you get those, share them with your elected leaders.

Quarterly reports: Your quarterly reports are a rich resource, not only for the services being provided but the wonderful examples of community collaboration that are happening. Examples of ways your services are integrated with other efforts are important, and these examples of coordination and collaboration resonate with our policymakers.

Connections with your work: There is probably nothing more powerful than directly connecting families who are benefiting from your services with policymakers. There are many ways to do this. You can encourage families to communicate directly; host an informal meeting where parents come to the table with policymakers and share their stories; organize a child-watch type of event where elected leaders come to a site or a home so they can see clearly the value of the services being provided; or any other creative approach you might have.

Critical decisions will be made in the coming weeks. If our policymakers don't know and understand the value of your work, it will be difficult to sustain support with so many competing interests. Now is the time to share your stories. Your work is critical to the families you serve. You are achieving amazing outcomes. Our policymakers need to know as they make these tough decisions.

--Michael Foley

Special Announcements



Free online leadership training for child welfare supervisors

The National Child Welfare Workforce Institute, a member of the T/TA network of the Children's Bureau, will offer a learning opportunity for child welfare supervisors: the Leadership Academy for Supervisors (LAS).

The LAS is an exciting resource for supervisors in public and tribal child welfare agencies and in private agencies that contract with the public agency to provide traditional child welfare services. This is a unique professional development opportunity to enhance leadership skills and network with others through regional peer networking forums. Certificates and/or CEUs are available for those who complete the training requirements. For more information visit the National Child Welfare Workforce Institute website at <http://www.ncwwi.org>.

CTF Extends Sympathy

Kevin Moody, the husband of Children's Trust Fund Board Chairperson, Nancy Moody, passed away on July 19, 2009, after a courageous battle against pancreatic cancer. CTF extends its sympathy to Nancy Moody and the entire family for their loss. Additional information and an online guestbook to leave thoughts for the family is available at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/ljsj/obituary.aspx?n=kevin-joseph-moody&pid=130094838>.

Meet the New CTF Executive Director



You are invited to meet Michael Foley, CTF's new Executive Director. Mr. Foley will be present at the following venues around the state, in order to give the general public, local councils, direct services grantees, and Zero to Three programs the opportunity to interact and offer thoughts on strengthening CTF's alliances with local communities in Michigan.

August 5 (4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.)

Hosted by the Children's Trust Fund of Michigan
Troppo (Troppo.org)
101 S. Washington Sq., Ste. 100
Lansing, MI 48909
Open to the Public (no R.S.V.P. necessary)

August 12 (9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

Hosted by Lori Antkoviak, J.D., Executive Director
Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center
402 Trowbridge
Allegan, MI 49010
Phone: (269) 673-3791
E-Mail: lantkoviak@safeharborallegan.org
Open to all Grantees (please R.S.V.P. if attending)

August 13 (9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)

Hosted by Mimi Otto, Executive Director
Kalamazoo County
Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Council
3299 Gull Road, G-16
Nazareth, MI 49074-0275
Phone: (269) 552-4430
E-Mail: mimi@kcan.org
Open to all Grantees (please R.S.V.P. if attending)

To R.S.V.P, please contact Derrick Hartwell at HartwellD@michigan.gov (R.S.V.P. is not required for the August 5 event in Lansing). Please R.S.V.P. by August 8 if attending one of the events. If a meet and greet is currently not planned in your area, please feel free to contact Derrick Hartwell at 517-373-4320 to schedule a possible date and time for your local council to meet with Mr. Foley.

Executive Director

Michael Foley
Executive Director

With the release of this month's newsletter, I have now been with the Trust Fund for a month. The month has flown by in what has been, in many ways, a whirlwind of getting oriented to our work and learning all the systems. Though the orientation has at times felt all consuming, here are a few observations from my first month at the Trust Fund.

As noted elsewhere in this edition, we're about to conduct our seventh *Cherish the Children* Auction. This event has grown over the years to the point that it is a significant source of support for the child abuse prevention programming that we back in every corner of the state. Last year we raised over \$400,000, and we're working hard to be even more successful this year. What has been both humbling and an inspiration to me, is to see the number of tremendously busy and talented people from all walks of life who give of their time and energy to make the auction the success it is. I know that the commitment to this event is because so many understand our mission and purpose and folks are willing to make a stand with us on the important issues of neglect and abuse prevention. We will look for ways to acknowledge and thank everyone connected to this event, but for now, thank you to one and all!

We have a bright, hard-working staff. The amount of quality work that is done by a small group of people is incredible. We're doing special events (see above), providing technical assistance and support, administering a large number of contracts (councils, direct service, and Zero to Three), partnering on special projects, working with state and national networks, and handling all the administrative functions related to it all. CTF is fortunate to have not only such a dedicated staff, but a staff that genuinely enjoys what they do.

Our Board is also working hard to support the work of CTF. Members are participating in the Committee work leading to the *Cherish the Children* Auction, lending their expertise to finance and budget work, and educating our policymakers on the important services we support in communities throughout the state. We have a Board with a wide range of experience and expertise, and they willingly contribute in ways that are making us a stronger organization.

I have only begun to visit our local councils and other partners. My initial impression is that our statewide network is comprised of dedicated advocates for the children and families in their communities. Already I've seen examples of quality programs and services as well as special event fundraising efforts that both bring needed resources to community efforts and engage a wide array of community partners in the work.

All in all CTF is moving along nicely on a variety of fronts.

Like any other organization in these difficult times, we are not without our challenges; but with the energy and passion focused on our work from everyone involved, we will continue to build on our strengths. We will expand and improve our capacity to support community efforts. In the end, our mission is critical to so many children in Michigan. With so many on board and supportive of our work, there are good things ahead for CTF and the work we support throughout the state.



Research and Resources

Guide Seeks To Heal the Wounds of Children Exposed to Violence

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Safe Start Center has published "Healing the Invisible Wounds: Children's Exposure to Violence." The guide, which is available in English and Spanish, offers informative tips on how to recognize the signs of children's exposure to violence and helpful advice on helping children thus exposed. Exposure to violence is a pervasive problem that crosses all ages, and the guide provides specific information pertaining to children of various ages, as well as a list of useful resources. "Healing the Invisible Wounds: Children's Exposure to Violence" and related resources, including a Quick Reference Guide, are available at www.safestartcenter.org.

Covering Child Sexual Abuse

The Journalism Center on Children and Families has a resource available entitled "Covering Child Sexual Abuse." The resource is available online at <http://www.journalismcenter.org>.

Family Engagement: A Web-based Practice Toolkit

NRCFCPPP announces "The Family Engagement: A Web-based Practice Toolkit" which was funded through a cooperative agreement between the Hunter College School of Social Work in New York and the Children's Bureau to the National Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice and Permanency Planning. This toolkit is intended as an online tool for programs, states and tribes where promising practices, programs and resources are made available. It can provide an opportunity to connect with colleagues and share program successes and challenges. The toolkit is available online at <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp>.

Children's Central Research

On August 12, from 2:00-4:00 p.m., Anna McAlister and Bettina Cornwell will be guests of Children's Central to review their latest research entitled "Collectible Toys as Marketing Tools: Understanding Preschool Children's Desire to Collect." It will take place in room 191 (the Deeb Conference Room) of the Communication, Arts, and Sciences Building at MSU. Directions are available at <http://cas.msu.edu>. For more information contact Nicole Marble at 517-432-2365.

Dr. McAlister, a psychologist at the University of Queensland in Australia, and Dr. Cornwell, an expert in sponsorship and consumer behavior at the University of Michigan, co-authored this year's best paper winner at the American Academy of Advertising conference, "Preschool Children's Persuasion Knowledge: The Contribution of Theory of Mind and Siblings." Individually and together they have published several papers on related topics.

Free Child Care Aware Parent Network

A series of free webinars for parents and early childhood professionals are available from NACCRRA's new online network, Child Care Aware Parent Network. Child Care Aware Parent Network Webinars are presented by child care experts to give you information about high-quality child care and other topics that are of interest to you. They are designed specifically for busy parents, grandparents, and professionals who want to learn more but have very little time.

Brain Development: You Can Easily Make a Positive Difference!

Wednesday, August 5, 2009, 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (EDT)

Presenter: Deborah McNelis

Click here to learn more and register now:

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/848696819>

My Body Belongs to Me!

Keeping Your Child Safe from Sexual Abuse: A Prosecutor's Advice

Tuesday August 25, 2009, 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (EDT)

Presenter: Jill Starishevsky

Click here to learn more and register now:

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/255794699>

Playing to Learn: Why High-Quality Child Care Must Include Play

Wednesday, September 16, 2009, 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (EDT)

Presenter: Dr. David Elkind

Click here to learn more and register now:

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/264055963>

Technical Assistance

Save the Dates!

Upcoming Protective Factors Webinars

Two upcoming learning opportunities will provide information on the protective factors and the Protective Factors Survey (PFS). The first learning opportunity is a nationwide webinar being hosted by FRIENDS. The second is specifically for CTF grantees and will cover use of the PFS, which new direct service grantees will be using. We hope you are able to join the discussions! Please contact Sarah Davis at CTF with any questions about the webinars.

Protective Factors: Applying Theory to Practice

When: Thursday, August 20, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., EST

What: Join the FRIENDS National Resource Center and staff from the Strengthening Families Initiative to explore how Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) programs can provide services that build and increase protective factors. The primary focus of this webinar will be on how CBCAP leads are using a protective factors framework to shape their prevention program strategies. State CBCAP leads will share their experiences in applying protective factors theory into practice. Time will be reserved for an in-depth question and answer period. Webinar content will also include a brief overview of research underpinning the Protective Factors and discuss the relevance of protective factors to CBCAP.

Registration information will be provided soon.

Using the Protective Factors Survey

When: Tuesday, September 15, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., EST

What: CTF will offer a training on the FRIENDS Protective Factors Survey (PFS). The PFS is a pre/post evaluation tool for use with caregivers receiving child maltreatment prevention services. Our FRIENDS T/TA coordinator, Edi Winkle, will provide a webinar training that covers:

- An overview of the protective factors: what they are and how they are used in prevention programs.
- A description of the PFS and its use.
- A description of the PFS database.
- Q&A.

All local councils and direct service grantees are invited to attend.

Please note: new direct service grantees (starting October 1, 2009) that will be using the PFS for program evaluation are required to attend this training. Prior to the training, grantees are encouraged to visit the FRIENDS website at <http://www.friendsnrc.org/outcome/pfs.htm> to learn about and download the tool, and to identify program staff who will be administering the PFS.

An announcement about the training and a registration link will be distributed in mid-August. We look forward to having you and your program staff join us to learn about this exciting tool!

2009 Annual Training

The 2009 CTF annual training will be held on November 12 and 13 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. This year's training will coincide with the MSU conference "Consumer Culture and the Ethical Treatment of Children: Theory, Research and Practice." This conference will present sessions on the latest research being conducted by acclaimed U.S. and international specialists and academics. **The CTF training will also feature workshops on fundraising, protective factors, program models, evaluation, and more.** The wide variety of speakers and workshops will provide excellent learning opportunities for program coordinators, staff, board members, and parents.

CTF encourages grantees to attend both days of training (at a minimum all CTF grantees are required to attend on November 12). CTF will cover registration and food costs for up to two attendees per direct service and local council grant for both days of training. Registration materials will provide information on costs for additional attendees, who are welcome to attend. If you have conflicts with the training date, please contact your grant monitor as soon as possible.

Online registration for the training will be available in late summer. However, we encourage you to make your room reservation at the Kellogg Center, as rooms available at the state rate are limited. To make reservations, call (800) 875-5090 and note that you are with the CTF training. Visit www.kelloggcenter.com for more information about the training site. If you have questions about the training, please contact your grant monitor. More details will follow soon!

Best Practices Work Group

CTF is forming a Best Practices/Program Standards Work Group. The vision for this group is to help local councils and direct service grantees develop and evolve their evaluation, outcomes, and evidence-based and evidence-informed practices and programs (EBP/EIP). Other areas to explore will include peer review, outcomes, and measurement tools. Please notify either Emily or Sarah if you are interested in participating in this group.

CAP Month & Fundraising Work Groups

CTF is seeking volunteers for two work groups. One will help shape our Child Abuse Prevention Month planning and the other will address fundraising efforts and opportunities. Local council and direct service grantees are welcome to participate. Please contact Emily if you are interested in joining either group.

News on the Ethical Treatment of Children from MSU-APRR Children's Central

www.childrenscentral.msu.edu

Researchers find more evidence that abuse begets abuse

Researchers from three Canadian universities have added to the argument that adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)—namely abuse and neglect—contribute to the likelihood of the abused becoming the abuser in a paper published in *Youth and Society Online*, May 12, 2009 (*The Journal of Youth and Society*). Their study, entitled “The Relationship between Adolescents’ Experience of Family Violence and Dating Violence,” confirms that experiences of family victimization and aggression are risk factors for dating violence in male and female teenage relationships.

The authors, comparing 471 adolescents (aged 12 to 19), confirmed that “adolescents carry negative childhood experiences of family violence into their intimate relationships in different ways, depending on gender and level of risk. Female adolescents who had been victimized by either of their parents were at greater risk for victimization ... within their dating relationships.

“High-risk adolescent males who reported childhood victimization were at a particularly high risk of being aggressive toward their girlfriends, especially if they were harshly disciplined by their father. The extent of aggression toward parents predicted aggression toward dating partners, particularly for girls.” For the full article, please visit <http://www.childrenscentral.msu.edu/outreach.html> (click on *The Journal of Youth and Society*).

Childhood obesity increasingly linked to child abuse and neglect charges in US courts

The mother of a 555-pound South Carolina 14-year-old boy has been arrested on child abuse charges. According to a report in *USA Today* (July 20, 2009), this case is one in a series of similar cases in which courts in at least five states have expanded their state’s definition of medical neglect to include morbid obesity, and have ruled that the children are victims of neglect.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other government agencies, foundations and academic institutions have documented an alarming rise in childhood obesity in the United States. Several Michigan State University researchers in the Department of Advertising, Public Relations and Retailing (the official research, education and outreach affiliate of the Children’s Trust Fund) are engaged in a variety of projects related to this issue.

Criminal child abuse charges should be a last resort, says Linda Spears, vice president of policy and public affairs for the Child Welfare League of America. “I think I would draw the line at a place where there are serious health consequences for the child and efforts to work with the family have repeatedly failed,” she says.

States have been taking a variety of actions outside the courts to combat childhood obesity, according to a report released this month by the Trust for America’s Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. For example, 20 states have established requirements for schools to do body mass index (BMI) screenings or other weight-related tests of children and adolescents, up from four states five years ago, the foundation said in their report “F as in Fat: How Obesity Policies are Failing in America.”

For the full article, please visit http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/weightloss/2009-07-20-obesityboy_N.htm.

Governors Unite and Sign Resolution against Child Abuse

From PR News Channel (7/21/09). Twenty-two U.S. governors, gathered in Biloxi, Mississippi in a meeting of the National Governors Association (NGA), unanimously pledged their support to “do all they could to end the epidemic of child abuse in America.” The resolution is part of a national campaign for Childhelp, a national non-profit organization dedicated to helping victims of child abuse and neglect. The resolution states:

Whereas, children are America’s most precious asset and deserve our most committed support and protection;

and whereas, the issue of child abuse and neglect is a serious and growing problem in America;

and whereas, every 10 seconds a child is abused in America;

and whereas, every day five children die as the result of child abuse in America;

and whereas, ever year millions of children are abused in America;

and whereas, due to the current economic downturn child abuse has been increasing in incidences and in severity in America.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that we, the Governors of the fifty United States of America and affiliated Territories, hereby pledge to do everything in our power to fight and bring an end to child abuse in America.

“The response we received from the Governors was amazing,” said John Reid, executive director of Childhelp. “They are and remain committed to putting a stop to abuse in America, and we are thankful for their support.”

For the full article, please visit <http://www.prnewschannel.com/absolutenm/templates/?a=1510&z=4>.

Key Dates



August 5: There will be an opportunity for those in the Lansing area to meet CTF's new Executive Director on Wednesday, August 5, 2009, at Troppo from 4:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. See page 5 for more details.

August 5: *Brain Development: You Can Easily Make a Positive Difference!* webinar from 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (EDT). See page 7 for more details.

August 6: CTF will host a Local Council Work Group Meeting via conference call at 10:00 a.m. Please contact the CTF office for call-in instructions.

August 7: CTF office is closed for the state furlough day.

August 8: The Clinton County Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Council will host a Kids Run on August 8, 2009, at the St. Johns Middle School in St. Johns, Michigan. Event starts at 8:30 a.m. Ages 3-12 fill out forms on sight. Cost is \$5 per child or \$15 for a family. Medals will be awarded.

August 12: There will be an opportunity to meet CTF's new Executive Director on Wednesday, August 12, 2009, at Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center in Allegan County from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. See page 5 for more details.

August 12: On August 12, from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Anna McAlister and Bettina Cornwell will be guests of Children's Central to review their latest research. It will take place in Room 191 of the Communication, Arts, and Sciences Building at Michigan State University. Directions are available at <http://cas.msu.edu/>. For more information see page 7.

August 12-13: On August 12-13, 2009, Demas will take to the roof of the McDonald's Restaurant at 918 N. Euclid in Bay City, Michigan, to raise funds for child abuse prevention in Saginaw, Bay, and Midland Counties. The WIOG Roofsit 2009 is sponsored by WIOG and McDonald's.

August 13: There will be an opportunity to meet CTF's new Executive Director on Thursday, August 13, 2009, at the Kalamazoo County Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Council in Kalamazoo County from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.. See page 5 for more details.

August 14: The 11th Annual Giving Hope Golf Scramble to benefit Child & Family Services (CTF's Ingham County Local Council) and their various programs is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Friday, August 14, at Walnut Hills Country Club. The event flyer is online at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/ctf/August_14_2009_brochure_283633_7.pdf.

August 20: FRIENDS will sponsor the Protective Factors: Applying Theory to Practice webinar on Thursday, August 20, 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., EST. See page 8 for more details.

August 21: CTF office is closed for the state furlough day.

August 25: Keeping Your Child Safe from Sexual Abuse webinar from 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (EDT). See page 7 for more details.

August 31: The Governor's Task Force on Children's Justice and Children's Charter of the Courts will host a training on the Individuals with Disabilities Act: Special Education Issues for Children in the Welfare System on August 31, 2009, at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in East Lansing, Michigan. There is no cost. Register online at <http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/services/CWS/TrainingDevelopment.htm>.



September 3: CTF will host a Local Council Work Group Meeting via conference call at 10:00 a.m. Please contact the CTF office for call-in instructions.

September 4: CTF office is closed for the state furlough day.

September 7: CTF office is closed for the Labor Day holiday.

September 10-11: The 14th Annual Governor's Task Force on Children's Justice Summit will be held on September 10-11, 2009, at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in Traverse City, Michigan. The featured speaker is Dr. Bruce Perry. For more information contact Erika Engel at 517-241-6131.

Key Dates

September 11-12: “It Takes a Team: Healing the Broken Hearts of Children” will be held on September 11-12 at Grand Valley State University. Nancy Thomas of Families by Design will be the featured speaker. For more information contact the Adoptive Family Support Network at 616-458-7945 or email registration@afsn.org.

September 13: Radio First and the St. Clair County Child Abuse/Neglect Council join together annually for a weeklong event at the Birchwood Mall in Fort Gratiot, Michigan. Chuck Santoni camps out on the roof of the mall for the entire week. This year’s event will begin on Sunday, September 13, 2009, with the annual For Kids Sake walk. The activities begin at 12:30 p.m. at Lakeside Park and include music, giveaways, and games for children. The WALK begins at approximately 2:00 p.m. with Chuck leading the way to the Birchwood Mall. The roof-sit will last through Friday, September 19, until Chuck Santoni comes down from the roof at 6:00 p.m. For more information, contact the St. Clair County Council at 810-966-9911.

September 14: The Children’s Trust Fund Board will meet on September 14 at 1:30 p.m. at the DTE Energy Office, 101 S. Washington Square, Ste. 700, Lansing, MI. The public is welcome to attend. For more information contact the CTF office at 517-373-4320.

September 15: CTF will offer a webinar training on using the FRIENDS Protective Factors Survey (PFS) on Tuesday, September 15, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. EST. See page 8 for more details.

September 16: Playing to Learn webinar from 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (EDT). See page 7 for more details.

September 24-25: The Children’s Trust Fund will conduct a Circle of Parents Training on September 24-25, 2009, at the Holiday Inn-West in Lansing, Michigan. Contact Derrick Hartwell at 517-373-4320 for more information. See page 17 for a registration form.

September 30: The Children’s Trust Fund’s 7th Annual “Cherish the Children” Signature Event Auction will be held on the evening of September 30, 2009, at the Lansing Center. For more information on how to get involved, visit the Signature Event section of the CTF website at www.michigan.gov/ctfsignature.



October 1: CTF will host a Local Council Work Group Meeting via conference call at 10:00 a.m.

October 8: Child’s Hope and Neiman Marcus are pleased to announce the fifth annual “Hopes & Dreams - A Girls’ Night Out” fall fashion show and dinner, a benefit for child abuse prevention programs in Wayne County. This year’s event is scheduled for Thursday, October 8, at the Ford CEC in Dearborn. For more information visit the Child’s Hope website at <http://www.childshope.org/HopesandDreams.htm>.

October 16: CARE House, the Child Abuse and Neglect Council of Oakland County, will hold their signature event “Merry-Go-Round” on October 16, 2009, from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at The Townsend Hotel in Birmingham, Michigan. Tickets are \$150-\$250 per guest and include a black tie gala with an auction, dinner, and dancing. For more information visit <http://www.carehouse.org/event-details.asp?articleID={C39841C1-365D-4403-87EB-A5A15ECBF751}> or call 248-332-7173.

October 16: The Washtenaw Area Council for Children will hold their annual fundraiser “Autumn Delights – A Chocolate and Wine Tasting” on Friday, October 16, at 6:00 p.m. at Lake Forest Golf Club in Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$50 per person. For more information, please call the office at 734-434-4215.

October 19-20: The University of Michigan Medical School will hold its 28th Annual Michigan Statewide Conference on Child Abuse & Neglect on October 19-20, 2009, at the Inn at St. John’s in Plymouth, MI.



November 5: CTF will host a Local Council Work Group Meeting via conference call at 10:00 a.m. Please contact the office for call-in instructions.

November 11: CTF office is closed for the Veteran’s Day holiday.

November 12-13: The CTF annual training and MSU conference will be held at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. Please see page 8 for details.

November 26-27: CTF office is closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Circle of Parents



*Sylvia Brown Jones
Circle of Parents Coordinator*

Greetings to Michigan's Circle of Parents network, and ongoing THANKS for a job well done! Our goal is to continue to build statewide capacity. Collaborative partners are welcome.

In our joint effort to assist parents in their tough job of parenting, we commit our resources and passion. You are providing invaluable parent leadership services to help strengthen Michigan's families. This page is a prelude to our state's Circle Newsletter that will publish its first issue in October 2009.

Derrick Hartwell will be completing his Internship for Community Development with CTF. Derrick's core project will be working with the COP program. He is also a single father, and has participated in some COP sessions. Derrick believes in the COP model. He will be participating in the upcoming 2-day statewide training.

I encourage Circle of Parents leaders to continue to send in your comments, stories, and input. What parenting issues are surfacing for discussion? Do you have any parents/youth that you would like to spotlight? Current highlights include:

*There will be a two-day statewide facilitator/parent leadership training in Lansing (Holiday Inn West) for new facilitators and parent leaders on September 24-25, 2009. The training will accommodate a maximum of 25 attendees. CTF can pay for mileage and breakfast and lunch meals. Complete details and the registration form is attached on pages 15-17.

*Following are some of the comments written by dads who attended the Conscious Fathering workshops (to support positive fatherhood involvement) during the past year:

"I wanted more time, this class is very interesting. We have to put machismo aside and care for our children and our partners."

"I thank the people who took the time to teach us how to be real dads."

"I really like the workshop because I learned things that I did not know about being a dad or that I had forgotten, please invite me again."

"I want to learn more about how to discipline my children, please invite to the next one."

"I like being able to practice holding, changing, and feeding a baby, and being able to learn from others that were present."

"I believe learning about taking care of our children, and their basic needs, was totally new for me. I will be able to do a great job from now on."

"This program gave me a lot of information about the right way to care for my baby and their development."

Quotes provided by Yobany Pardo, Ph.D. LP
Mental Health Consultant
Facilitator for Conscious Fathering workshops

Circle of Parents

Ten Ways to Help Prevent Child Abuse



Be a nurturing parent. Children need to know that they are special, loved and capable of following their dreams.

Help a friend, neighbor or relative. Being a parent isn't easy. Offer a helping hand to take care of the children, so the parent(s) can rest or spend time together.

Help yourself. When the big and little problems of your everyday life pile up to the point you feel overwhelmed and out of control – take time out. Don't take it out on your kids.

If baby cries. It can be frustrating to hear your baby cry. Learn what to do if your baby won't stop crying. Never shake a baby – shaking a child may result in severe injury or death.

Get involved. Ask your community leaders, clergy, library and schools to develop services to meet the needs of healthy children and families.

Help to develop parenting resources at your local library.

Promote programs in school. Teaching children, parents and teachers prevention strategies can help to keep children safe.

Monitor your child's television and video viewing. Watching violent films and TV programs can harm young children.

Volunteer at a local child abuse prevention program. For information about volunteer opportunities, call 1.800.CHILDREN.

Report suspected abuse or neglect. If you have reason to believe a child has been or may be harmed, call your local department of children and family services or your local police department.

Courtesy of Prevent Child Abuse America, www.preventchildabuse.org

Brenda's Corner

Update on Brenda's condition. She went into the hospital on August 3 for a bone marrow transplant. The following two inspiring thoughts are submitted from a previous COP participant:

Make a Difference – Do what you can, but never forget that letting go is very different from giving up. Of all the things you can make in life, remember you make all the difference in your life. ~Author Unknown

Courage is not the absence of Fear – Put your faith, and not your fears, in charge. Courage isn't the absence of fears, but how you wrestle with them. ~ Author Unknown

The following inspiring thoughts are submitted from the DHS Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Programs, Mary Hall-Thiam, Ed.D.

“Believe anything is possible and look for evidence to support this belief.” ~ Author Unknown

“Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you The Strength, The Patience, and The Passion to reach for the stars to change the world.” ~ Harriet Tubman

Team News

Fund Development Opportunities

Tom's of Maine Grant

Tom's of Maine wants to support nonprofit organizations working to do good in their community. They are taking submissions until August 30, and five nonprofits will be selected to receive \$20,000 for their projects. Go to their website at <http://www.tomsomaine.com/community-involvement/project-sponsorships.aspx> for information and to apply.

Wal-Mart Foundation

Wal-Mart Foundation Blue vest bucks! The Wal-Mart Foundation supports projects in education, health and wellness, job training and the environment. They are taking submissions until September 18, 2009, and the grant range is up to \$25,000. For more information, visit their website at <http://walmartstores.com/CommunityGiving/8168.aspx?p=8979>.

Signature Event Support

Kendra Osborne and Christina Medina have joined the CTF team and will be working a 12-week contract to help provide support for the Signature Event on September 30, 2009. Kendra and Christina are very skilled and have been a tremendous assistance to Event Coordinator, Patricia Headley.

Michigan CTF Social Media

Facebook Fans: 324*

Twitter Followers: 81*

*Effective August 5, 2009.

For more information on CTF's social media program, please contact Alan Stokes or access the article in the July News Briefs.



Children's Trust Fund

Protecting Michigan's Children



Prevent Child Abuse
Michigan

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Local Council Grant Monitor



What We Do

Circle of Parents® is a growing national network of non-profit organizations and parent leaders that offer anyone in a parenting role the opportunity to participate in weekly group meetings with other parents to exchange ideas, share information, develop and practice new parenting skills, learn about community resources, and give and receive support. Groups are parent-led with the support of a trained group facilitator, are conducted in a confidential and non-judgmental manner, are free of charge and provide developmentally-appropriate children's programs or child care concurrent with the parent group meetings. Developing leadership on the individual, family, community and societal levels is a central theme of the Circle of Parents®. A Responsible Fatherhood program component was added in January, 2008. This component will be covered during the training. Michigan currently has 18 sites, with multiple groups at these sites.

Circle of Parents® utilizes the following standards to guide groups:

- The groups utilize the mutual self-help support model.
- A trained group facilitator and parent leader facilitate the support groups.
- Open groups meet weekly and are offered at no cost to any participant.
- Driven by parent need and feasibility, a no-cost children's program is available; if not possible, then quality childcare is provided.
- The group facilitator, parent leader and other group members are available to one another between group meetings.
- Groups are ongoing, require no intake, and, with few exceptions, are open to all parents.
- Group members are assured of confidentiality in a non-judgmental environment within the limits of the law.
- Community resource information that supports healthy family development is available to all group members.

Parent Leadership

Circle of Parents® participants gain the knowledge and skills to function in meaningful leadership roles and represent a "parent voice" to help shape the direction of their families, programs and communities. Parents and professionals build effective partnerships and share responsibility, expertise and leadership decisions.

By promoting parents as leaders, participants in Circle of Parents® groups are empowered and prepared to take on leadership roles in their families and on the community, state and national levels.

Parent leadership, which is at the heart of Circle of Parents®, enables parents to contribute to the effectiveness and responsiveness of organizations as they participate in family support program and policy development.

Research Based

Focus groups and evaluation indicate that Circle of Parents® participants:

- become empowered to influence other parents and their community;
- feel supported and connected to other parents;

- learn how to parent children as they grow;
- learn about non-violent ways to discipline children and learn more about themselves and how this awareness helps them to become better parents; and
- gain knowledge about meeting family needs from resources and materials that are provided.

Throughout Michigan, Circle of Parents is being used as the catalyst for developing parent leadership and involvement throughout the community. Fully honoring principles of mutual respect, equal contribution and shared leadership, parents become empowered to influence other parents and their community-advocating on behalf of their children and families.

Who should attend?

- Program Managers/Coordinators
- Parent Educators
- Parent Leaders (fathers welcome)

What will attendees learn?

- How to Develop, Implement and Evaluate the Circle of Parents ® Model
- The importance of promoting "parental balance," and "positive fatherhood involvement"
- The importance of creating father friendly organizations
- How to use Circle of Parents® Model as a Catalyst for Developing Parent Coalitions
- Group Dynamics
- The Art of Group Facilitation
- Developing Parent Leadership
- Circle of Parent® Group Structure and Operations
- How to Apply Leadership Skills to Local and State-Wide Advocacy

Training Information (Only 25 slots available - Register Early)

- ***Where:*** , Holiday Inn Lansing West, Lansing, MI
 - Capital Room - In the Conference Center
 - Driving directions, parking, and booking your hotel reservations, information can be obtained from the following link: <http://www.holidayinn.com/lansing-west>
- ***When:*** Thursday, September 24, 2009, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM & Friday, September 25, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- ***Cost:*** Training and materials will be provided to participants at no charge. Mileage (.585 per mile if traveling over 70 miles), Breakfast and Lunch is also provided. Participants will be responsible for lodging, and dinner.

Where to Stay:

Holiday Inn Lansing West
 7501 W. Saginaw Hwy
 Lansing, MI 48917
 Phone: (517) 627-3211
 Fax: (517) 627-5240
 Check-in Time: 4:00 pm/Check-out Time: 12:00 pm

The Holiday Inn Lansing West Hotel & Conference Center features 244 well appointed guest rooms with Free High Speed Wireless Internet Access throughout the hotel. It also has over 16,000 square feet of flexible meeting space, to accommodate up to 400 guests. The room rate will be \$65.00 per night, plus taxes.



REGISTRATION FORM

(Thursday, September 24, 2009, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM & Friday, September 25, 2009 10, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM - Holiday Inn, Lansing West)

Name: _____

Agency/County: _____

Role/Position: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

THIS SITE WILL HAVE A CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Your role with the Circle of Parents® Program (check all that apply):

_____ Group Facilitator

_____ Parent Leader

_____ Children's Program Staff/Volunteer

_____ Program Coordinator/Director/Supervisor

_____ Potential Circle of Parents site (Facilitator, Parent Leader, Program Coordinator)

Please send registrations forms to:

Derrick Hartwell: Children's Trust Fund
235 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 1411
Lansing, MI 48933

Phone: (517) 373-4320

Fax (517) 241-7038

Email: hartwelld@michigan.gov

