



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

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# CTF NEWS BRIEFS ~ December 2015

## Holiday Wishes from the Children's Trust Fund

*The Children's Trust Fund Board and Staff wish you all the very best this holiday time. CTF is proud to be part of a statewide network comprised of hard working and committed individuals, all of whom are committed to making Michigan the best place possible for all children to reach their fullest potential. We eagerly look forward to our continued partnerships in the coming year.*



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# Local Council News

## *Reflections on 2015*

It's happened once more. Another year has flown by so quickly! This past year was a productive one for all 73 CTF Local Councils across the State of Michigan. Some notable Local Council accomplishments of this past year are included in the following paragraphs.

I am proud to say once more, that the entire State of Michigan will have a CTF Local Council presence in all of its 83 counties represented by 73 councils for the next 3 year contract period. Several Local Councils volunteered their time to provide input to the application process.

For the 7th year in a row a dedicated group of Local Councils volunteered their time to help make Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month a great success. The CAP Month Workgroup, comprised of the same people who volunteer year after year, helped to produce a revised CAP Month toolkit. The revisions for this particular toolkit were so vast that the revisions to the 2016's toolkit have been greatly reduced. The group helped organize a memorable CAP Month rally event at the State Capitol. Special thanks go out to Catherine Martinez (Bay), Kathy Kelly (Ingham), Deanna Norris (Livingston), Miriana Milo (Oakland Co.), Leigh Moerdyke (Ottawa), Leslie Eschenbacher (Saginaw), and Cindy Swift (Out-Wayne) for their continued commitment to this dynamic workgroup.

Once more during the spring and summer months, regional meetings took place all across the state. Nearly 100 individuals came together to share and collaborate with their regional peers. Topics explored during the regional meetings included; parent leadership, sustainability and capacity building and fund raising. I am thrilled to report that out of a group exercise during the fundraising portion of the day several councils continued their collaborative efforts and have advanced the fundraiser projects they created at the regional meeting.

Also, Local Councils continue to work tirelessly to ensure their organizations' sustainability. This past year Local Councils raised nearly \$2 million for their own prevention programming in a number of creative ways to support the important primary prevention programming and services for the children and families of their communities.

In 2015 CTF began to produce a video that will be used for educational, communications and marketing purposes. Both Direct Services grantees and Local Councils are highlighted on this video which is expected to be completed for CAP Month, 2016. Local Council leadership as well as individuals benefitting from council programming were interviewed for the video. CTF appreciated those Local Council coordinators participating in this effort including: Chippewa (Renee Johnson), Mason (Marie Waite), Washtenaw (Jyoti Gupta), Wexford/Missaukee (Karen Staub). We believe their valuable contributions will help create a quality product to help increase the public's knowledge about CTF and the programming it supports.

Finally, although I've said it often in the past, I need to reiterate how much I am honored to work with this wonderful group of men and women who dedicate themselves to ensuring that all of our children grow up in a safe, secure and nurturing environment with the goal of them becoming positive contributors (as adults) to a thriving society.

Here's wishing you and yours a very happy holiday season and all the best in 2016!





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# Prevention Awareness Day



## What:

- A celebration of April's Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month
- A rally, procession & planting of a pinwheel garden in support of child abuse prevention
- Presentation by keynote speakers and musical guests.

## When:

- Tuesday, April 19, 2016, rally at 11 AM

## Where:

- The MI Capitol Steps, Capitol Ave, Lansing, MI

## For Additional Information Contact:

- Emily Schuster-Wachsberger  
(wachsbergere@michigan.gov),  
517-335-0671



# His Love Family Resources

His Love Family Resources is located in Mio which is in Oscoda County in rural northern Michigan. It is a faith-based baby pantry and parenting resource center. The resource center is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 -5 and with the help of our Direct Service Grant also on Mondays from 2 – 7 pm making it possible for those working to come. They serve more than 150 families a year.

His Love Family Resources believes that parents desire to be good parents for their children but are sometimes lacking knowledge and supportive role models. The baby pantry operates under an “Earn While You Learn” Program. Parents choose to participate in activities that increase their knowledge about parenting such as reading brochures on child development, attachment, nutrition, healthy relationships and many more, watching DVDs on Safe Sleep, Understanding Pregnancy, Happiest Baby on the Block and others. If they are expecting their first child, they can take “First Time Mom” classes and earn a new crib for their baby. The informal mentoring relationships formed with our volunteers help provide one of the protective factors of Social Connections as our clients feel free to ask questions about things they are experiencing as parents. A second factor of Concrete Support is provided as mothers and fathers earn Mommy Money or Daddy Dough which is spent in the baby pantry to purchase the clothing, diapers, wipes and other things their baby needs.

Parents can continue to make use of the Resource Center as long as they like. CTF funds are used to help His Love Family Resources keep the resource library up –to-date with new DVDs and brochures for clients to use. His Love Family Resources networks with Community resources giving and receiving referrals from Early Head Start, WIC, DHHS, Early On, CMH, and Love I.N.C.

Some of the comments received on the recent satisfaction survey were:

- “The relationship is good with program staff, they are always here to help.”
- “They remember who you are and what’s going on in your life and always seem to care.”
- ”They kept my head high when I felt down.”
- “They are very helpful when questions are asked about things.”

His Love Family Resources is thankful for the support of the Children’s Trust Fund in providing these services to the families of Oscoda County. You can find more information on the website [www.hislovemio.org](http://www.hislovemio.org) or by phone at 826-5817.



For more information on His Love Family Resources contact:

*His Love Family Resources*, 203 S. Morenci, Mio, MI 48647

Ruth Ressler, *Director*, 989-370-2403

Email: [ruth@hislovemio.org](mailto:ruth@hislovemio.org)

## New Factsheets on Using Protective Factors for ACYF Populations

Protective factors are conditions or attributes of individuals, families, communities, or the larger society that can promote well-being by serving as “buffers” to the effects of risk exposure and helping individuals and families negotiate difficult circumstances and fare better in school, work, and life. A new series of factsheets for practitioners reviews current research linking protective factors to well-being for five in-risk populations served by the Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF):

- Promoting Protective Factors for Children Exposed to Domestic Violence
- Promoting Protective Factors for Children and Youth in Foster Care
- Promoting Protective Factors for In-Risk Families and Youth
- Promoting Protective Factors for Pregnant and Parenting Teens
- Promoting Protective Factors for Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect

The factsheets explore topics such as individual skills and capacities that can improve the well-being of children and youth; how parents, guardians, and others can contribute to the well-being of these children; and strategies for practitioners. A model framework for organizing and applying protective factors is included, as well as a table listing specific protective factors for ACYF populations by level of influence.

For more information on protective factors, check out our web sections Risk & Protective Factors and Protective Factors to Promote Well-Being, or download *2015 Prevention Resource Guide: Making Meaningful Connections*.

### CTF Social Media Pages



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