



Children's Trust Fund
Protecting Michigan's Children

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CTF NEWS BRIEFS ~ January 2016

The Michigan Children's Trust Fund Reinvests All Increases in Tax Check-off Contributions to Communities of Origin



Michigan taxpayers can take advantage of the opportunity to increase the child abuse prevention funding in their communities by making a tax deductible contribution when filing the Michigan tax return. When you do your Michigan taxes, look for Michigan Tax Form 4642, which is the Voluntary Contribution Schedule. CTF is listed as “Children’s Trust Fund – Preventing Child Abuse in Michigan” along with other charities.

Like last year, all increases in tax check-off contributions made to the Children’s Trust Fund will be returned to the communities of origin. The trust fund has always provided community grants that exceed the local tax check off amounts. Now, with this plan, CTF will increase those grants, dollar for dollar, with the increases in contributions.

Grants from the trust fund support a wide range of programs and services through the statewide network of Child Abuse and Neglect Councils. Based on local priorities, local councils use funding for initiatives such as shaken baby prevention and safe sleep education, parent support, child sexual assault prevention and education, welcome baby supports for new families, and community wide education to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect.

Again, please remember CTF when filing your state income taxes. Look for Michigan Tax Form 4642, Voluntary Contribution Schedule, and check to protect.

For more information about CTF, how to contribute, and how to participate in local fundraising activities, please visit www.michigan.gov/ctf or contact CTF Fund Development Coordinator, Tricia Headley at headleyp@michigan.gov.

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Local Council News

Looking Ahead in 2016

As we begin 2016 I anticipate a dynamic year for the 73 CTF Local Councils across the State of Michigan. Year after year the councils dedicate themselves to strengthening our families to help reduce child abuse and neglect. They work to assure that our children grow up in safe and nurturing environments so that every Michigan child may fulfill his or her potential as an adult.

If past actions are any indication of future successes, I know that these Local Councils will continue throughout this next year as prevention leaders within their respective communities. This past year they engaged in numerous programming endeavors which included:

- Distributing nearly 180,000 prevention informational materials;
- Publishing approximately 350 public awareness newspaper articles;
- Supporting baby pantries that provided vital necessities while distributing information and offering support to nearly 17,000 people;
- Providing mandated reporter training to almost 7,000 members of the professional community; and
- Conducting almost 47,000 individual prevention educational sessions.

The 2015 CTF Local Councils also engaged in raising precious dollars to help fund their vital programming. Their efforts netted over \$1.9 million.

The CTF Local Councils continued in 2015 to develop collaborative partnerships with other like-minded organizations as well as with their fellow Local Council colleagues. The councils either collectively lead or attended more than 1,200 community collaborative activities. Nearly 60 councils sent 100 Local Council members to the CTF regional meetings during the spring and summer months. These regional meetings provide for a CTF Local Council sharing and collaborating experience. It is of no surprise that a number of councils continued to work together after the regional meetings to advance fundraising activities initially developed at those regional meetings.

A number of Local Councils also volunteered their time to help CTF with the following efforts:

- Providing input into the 2016-2018 application;
- Participating on the Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month workgroup to produce a premier CAP Month toolkit and help plan for the Prevention Awareness Day rally event which takes place in Lansing;
- Helping CTF at the Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event; and
- Answering several surveys to assist CTF with its own quality assurance initiatives.

The CTF Local Councils are champions for our state. Their constancy and passion for the prevention mission continues. For more information about the work of CTF's Local Councils as well as information about contacting individual councils please go to the Local Councils page in the Programs section of the CTF webpage at www.michigan.gov/ctf.

- *Emily Schuster-Wachsberger*



New Direct Service Grants

The Children's Trust Fund Board has approved ten (10) new direct services grants for funding to begin April 1st, 2016. The awarded grantees will be able to provide services in Michigan communities for 3 and a half years as the grant ends in September 30, 2019. These ten grants will join 14 currently funded grants that are continuing into 2016.

Arbor Circle

Serving: Kent Count

Total Amount: \$175,000.00

Program: Kent County Healthy Start Program

Website: www.arborcircle.org

Bethany Christian Services

Serving: Grand Traverse County

Total Amount: \$95,036.00

Program: Safe Families for Children Program

Website: www.bethany.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bay Area

Serving: Delta, Dickinson, Menominee

Total Amount: \$175,000.00

Program: School Based Mentoring Program

Website: www.bbbsba.org

Genesee Intermediate School District

Serving: Genesee County

Total Amount: \$175,000.00

Program: Successful Kids=Involved Parents Program

Website: www.geneseeisd.org

Huron County Health Department

Serving: Huron County

Total Amount: \$175,000.00

Program: Family Mentor/Healthy Families America Home Visiting

Website: www.hchd.us

Ingham County Health Department

Serving: Ingham County

Total Amount: \$135,331.00

Program: Home Visiting Program (Parents as Teachers)

Website: <http://hd.ingham.org>

Livingston Area Council Against Spouse Abuse, Inc. (LACASA)

Serving: Livingston County

Total Amount: \$175,000.00

Program: Healthy Families Livingston Program

Website: www.lacasacenter.org

St. Clair RESA

Serving: St Clair County

Total Amount: \$175,000.00

Program: St. Clair County Great Start Home Visiting Program

Website: www.sccresa.org

Student Advocacy Center

Serving: Jackson County

Total Amount: \$136,688.01

Program: Early Truancy Intervention Program

Website: www.studentadvocacycenter.org

Van Buren Intermediate School District

Serving: Van Buren County

Total Amount: \$175,000.00

Program: Family Empowerment Program

Website: <http://www.vbisd.org>

Eaton Great Start Parents As Teachers

Each month we feature the amazing work of a Direct Services Grantee or a Local Council. Our Direct Services Grant in Eaton County is part of a collaborative approach to serve teen parents with the evidenced based Parents As Teachers model.

Eaton Great Start Parents As Teachers (PAT) serves Eaton County and the Eaton Regional Education Service Area. The project includes support from Children's Trust Fund, Michigan Department of Education, and the Eaton County Juvenile Justice Millage. Our CTF grant has made it possible to have a Parent Educator working with teen parents who are completing their education.

Eaton Great Start Parents As Teachers believes that parents are a child's first teacher and really want to provide the best opportunities for their child. Sometimes, parents experience challenges. Teen parents have additional challenges due to age, education, and family history. In order to meet these challenges, PAT works with parents to increase Protective Factors.

Nurturing and Attachment - Students coming from families with histories of incarceration and substance abuse often miss out on early experiences of being nurtured and developing a bond with a caring adult. The Parent Educator not only models nurturing and attachment between the parent and baby/toddler, but also the nurturing that the teen parents need to be able to move beyond their own childhood experiences and be able to parent their own child.

Knowledge of Parenting and of Child and Youth Development - The parent/students we serve often lack parental models who provided discipline, set and enforced limits. Child abuse and neglect are often associated with a lack of understanding of basic child development or an inability to put that knowledge into action. The Parent Educator provides timely mentoring, coaching, advice, and practice (the PAT model) in working with the teen parents. By incorporating the PAT Teen curriculum, the teen identifies with their own development and how that impacts the way in which they are able to parent.

Parental Resilience - PAT provides parents with the tools to deal with stressors. Our Parent Educator assists the teen parents in focusing on their strengths, as well as the strengths of their child. For these parents who balance parenting, school, work, and teen social life, having someone who can answer their questions and affirm their parenting provides an outlet that can distress and nurture the resilience needed to deal with their many faceted lives.

Social Connections - The group connections provided by Eaton Great Start are opportunities for our teen parents to make healthy social connections within the broader community, including other parents, faith-based connections, service agencies and programs.

Concrete Supports for Parents - The Parent Educator assists families in connecting with resources to meet not only their basic needs, but also their social emotional needs. Connections to food, clothing, housing, transportation, and access to essential services such as child care, health care; alcohol and drug treatment, and domestic violence counseling are all essential. Focus is on goals identified by the teen parent and the work is to find concrete ways to meet their goals. Referrals and resources are provided. Our parent educator stays connected to help teens monitor their progress and to assist when barriers and challenges emerge.

In 2015, CTF made it possible to serve seventeen additional families, with 26 children.



For more information on Eaton Great Start Parent as Teachers contact:

Eaton RESA, 1790 E. Packard Highway, Charlotte, MI 48813-9719

Ronda Rucker Director, 517-541-8987

Website: www.eatonresa.org

Email: rrucker@eatonresa.org

CTF Social Media Pages



Children's Trust Fund
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