



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

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# CTF NEWS BRIEFS ~ November 2015

## Children's Trust Fund Board to Meet on December 9

The Children's Trust Fund Board, which serves as the State Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board, will meet on Wednesday, December 9, 2015.

The meeting will be held at Jackson National Life Insurance, 3275 Okemos Road, Mason, MI 48854 in their 4th floor Board Room. For more information on attending this meeting or receiving copies of agendas contact Alan Stokes at [stokesa@michigan.gov](mailto:stokesa@michigan.gov) or call 517-373-4320.

### *Giving Tuesday*



December 1, 2015, is Giving Tuesday, a National Day of Giving. There are many ways for you to get involved in Giving Tuesday! You can:

- Donate to ensure children in Michigan have the opportunity for a great childhood. Children are our future!,
- Volunteer at your Michigan Children's Trust Fund Local Council,
- Share the mission of the Michigan Children's Trust Fund and Giving Tuesday on your Facebook and Twitter, and,
- Follow Michigan Children's Trust Fund on Facebook and Twitter!

To learn more about how you can participate in Giving Tuesday, check out the official Giving Tuesday website.

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# **Child Abuse Prevention Month Prevention Awareness Day: Save the Date**



Although Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month seems like a long way off, CTF is already planning for our Prevention Awareness Day (PrAD) event, a day to recognize Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month and to honor all the children and families in our state. Please mark your calendar for PrAD which is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at 11AM at the Lansing State Capitol steps. We have an exciting day planned that will include a rally, procession, and the “planting” of a pinwheel garden. We’ll have notable speakers and entertainment, all supporting the belief that child abuse and neglect can be prevented. Following the rally on the Capital steps all participants will walk two blocks down Michigan Avenue where the pinwheel garden portion of the event will take place. The pinwheel is the nationally recognized symbol for child abuse and neglect prevention. Stand by for further details.

## **Annual Training**

On November 2nd and 3rd the State of Michigan Local Councils convened in Plymouth, MI for the CTF annual training which it shares with the annual University of Michigan Child Abuse and Neglect Conference. During both days councils had opportunities to listen to notable speakers, attend a number of informative breakout sessions and share lunch in a dining room specially reserved for Local Councils and Direct Services grantees. Advocacy was the theme at the first day’s afternoon combined Local Councils and Direct Services breakout session. Emily Schuster Wachsberger of CTF along with Mina Hong, (senior policy associate) of Michigan’s Children co-facilitated this session. The main activity of the session broke Local Councils and Direct Services grantees out by state region and then each region brainstormed and identified an advocacy issue of interest. Each group discussed: 1) the importance of the issue and why it matters; 2) what legislators can be told about this issue; 3) who supportive community partners might be and; 4) who are potential good messengers to help carry the message to legislators or other policy stakeholders. The rich discussions amongst each group began a conversation about advocacy which we will plan to continue.

It was once more a pleasure to be with such a dynamic and dedicated group of individuals!



The Children's Trust Fund  
*Congratulates*  
**SYLVIA BROWN JONES**  
As a 2015  
"ESSENTIAL PIECE"  
Award Honoree

Sylvia Brown Jones, who served for ten years as a member of the CTF team until her retirement this past Spring, was honored by Motherly Intercession at their Annual "Interceding for Children" Fundraiser Dinner on November 14, 2015 in Flint. Motherly Intercession has been a Direct Services Grantee for the Children's Trust Fund since 2013 providing education and support to families with incarcerated parents and has made a great impact on the Genesee County area. For more information on Motherly Intercession visit their website at [www.miforu.org](http://www.miforu.org).

## CTF Welcomes Intern

CTF welcomes its newest intern, Estefanía Sanchez, a junior at the James Madison College within Michigan State University. She is majoring in political social policy and is minoring in Spanish. After completing her bachelor's degree Estefanía plans to continue with graduate school majoring in social work. She began her internship in October and will be with CTF until May. Already, she is distinguishing herself as a highly motivated team member assisting Emily Schuster-Wachsberger with a variety of Local Council projects, attending meetings and conferences and moving forward, will also be assisting with Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month planning. We hope that her time with CTF will be a positive learning experience for her. It is already a positive experience for CTF!

# Introducing a Compendium of Evidenced-Based Parenting Interventions

By Shantel E. Meek, Ph.D., Senior Policy Advisor for Early Childhood Development

If you google “parenting” about 284 million results pop up. Last winter, the Washington Post published an article partly titled “Americans are Obsessed with Parenting”. Part of the reason we’re obsessed with parenting is because we all want to be the best parents we can be for our children. The unfortunate truth is that many, if not most, of what pops up in google searches, magazines, newspapers, television and the radio, is junk science; advice that can be unreliable and based more on opinion than science. Early childhood program have an important role in partnering with parents and families, and providing capacity-building opportunities on promoting children’s learning and development. And they have the responsibility to do so in way that is scientifically sound and responsive to families’ strengths, needs, and wants.

Today we are launching a package of new resources for States, schools, and early childhood programs that make it easier to find and implement parenting interventions that have a research base and are responsive to families’ and communities’ needs. The package includes:

- Compendium of Parenting Interventions: The Compendium profiles parenting interventions for families of children birth to age five that are research-based. It includes information on the cost, training requirements, duration, and intended outcomes of each intervention. The document also reviews the research base for each intervention.
- Implementing Parenting Interventions in Early Care and Education Settings: A Guidebook for Implementation: The Guidebook outlines the steps to successfully implement a parenting intervention in an early childhood program, including how to assess an organization’s readiness, assess families’ needs, choose the appropriate intervention, carry out an intervention, and evaluate progress.

Despite the central role we know families play in children’s learning and development, too often the supports our own field offers our families do not meet high quality standards. Specific strategies, however well intentioned, may lack an evidence-base and/or the data tracking processes that ensure they are making a difference in families’ lives. Efforts may be short-lived and lack a sustainability plan. And content in interventions or activities do not always match the strengths, needs, and wants of the families in the community. We hope that these resources help us raise our own accountability to the families and children we serve, so that we can improve the quality of children’s earliest experiences, and that of their families’.

These resources are a continuation of our focus on supporting early childhood programs, so they can better partner with families. We encourage you to check out our resources on parenting, and family engagement and wellness more broadly, at our webpage on Parent, Family and Community Engagement. The site includes the Provider/Teacher Relationship Quality Measures which help programs assess relationships with families, and many professional development resources on our Professional-Development-to-go page, among many other resources. In the coming months, we will also be releasing a federal policy statement on family engagement in partnership with the U.S. Department of Education.

We hope these resources are helpful to the many early childhood stakeholders who serve young children and their families - States and communities, Head Start, Early Head Start, and Partnership grantees, child care programs and networks, public and private preschool programs, schools, and other community-based organizations that engage in this important work-because partnering with families on children’s learning and development is essential, not supplemental, to preparing children for school and helping them succeed once they arrive.

## Kid Store

When you think of the month of November, you usually think of Thanksgiving and all of the great food that you will be consuming. Many of us usually have lots of leftovers and what better way to carry your leftovers to work, school or any place away from home than in a lunch cooler. The lined cooler is great for storing your food and keeping it fresh and it comes with an adjustable strap for easy carrying and very lightweight. It also has CTF's logo imprinted on it. The lunch coolers are available in Green, Yellow and Blue. (Children's Trust Fund Primary Colors). You can show your support and buy a lunch cooler for only \$6.00 each. 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 to the website <http://tinyurl.com/CTFKidstore>. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Anne Stokes at 517-373-4320.



## CTF Social Media Pages



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