

FOR KIDS' SAKE - PREVENTION MATTERS

THE PROBLEM

Much is being done to PREVENT child abuse and neglect, yet we must do more. As long as a single child is abused or neglected, this struggle cannot end.

No study can gauge the human toll that abuse and neglect inflicts on our children. Most physical injuries heal with time, but the emotional injuries can last a lifetime, leaving survivors to ask time and again: "Why was I hurt so badly by those who were supposed to love and protect me?"

There is no good answer.

The St. Clair County Child Abuse/Neglect Council, and others like it all across Michigan, are working for the day when no child has to ask that question.

Every step we take toward eliminating child abuse will improve the quality of life for children, families, and communities, and will provide a better future for all of us.

The Sun Goes Down . . .

The sun sets on Birchwood Mall - all is quiet and Chuck Santoni sleeps (or at least tries) in his makeshift village. Another day is done and Chuck's efforts to help prevent child abuse in St. Clair County rest for a while - or until the sun comes up again and WSAQ listeners tune in to hear the lively chatter which begins another day roof top.

Will the sun ever set on the victimization of children in our society? During Roof-Sit week alone, another 15-20 children will die from abuse or neglect in our country - and another 50 cases of child maltreatment will be reported in our county alone.

Let us all keep trying - let us not fail the children - let us continue to support the belief that . . .

"It Shouldn't Hurt To Be A Child."



FOR KIDS' SAKE

Summer 2010

Volume I Issue II

COMMUNITY ROOF-SIT 2010

September 19-24, 2010

A newsletter published by
The St. Clair County
Child Abuse/Neglect
Council, Inc.

In this issue:

- Roof-Sit 2010
- It Takes A Family
- Angel Investors
- Calendar of Events
- Walk for Kids' Sake
 - Five by Five
 - Be A Star
- The Problem
- The Sun Goes Down



ST. CLAIR COUNTY
CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT COUNCIL
1107 Military, Port Huron, MI 48060
info@sccstopchildabuse.org

810-966-9911
Fax: 810-966-9933

It's Roof-Sit time again - number sixteen is in the planning stages and we hope you're on board to join in the fun again this year. This unique event, sponsored by our Council, WSAQ Radio and the Birchwood Mall, is a fall tradition in St. Clair County - and for many - when the little Roof-Sit "hut" appears outside Birchwood Mall - the fun starts - challenges erupt all over the county and we're off hoping to make this year's event the best ever!

In spite of a difficult economy, Council's prevention services continue non-stop, and each year we continue to provide forensic interviewing services for well over one hundred alleged child sexual abuse victims. Our services are highly valued by our professional community as a viable way to collaborate about these tragic situations and move more quickly

toward solutions. Roof-Sit is the vehicle that allows us to continue our services - as sixty percent of our budget each year is fundraised.

Chuck Santoni now a veteran Roof-Sitter, will pack his bags and ride skyward atop a Fort Gratiot fire truck aerial ladder on September 19, 2010. As always, the large crowd which has accompanied Chuck to the Mall from Lakeside Park in the Walk For Kids' Sake will cheer him on as he leaves solid ground for his five day roof top stay. Chuck then becomes the consummate child advocate - pleading every day all day (beginning at 6:00 am) for every kid's right to be safe, cared for and valued. We also invite your advocacy -- donate, advocate or simply cheer on the awesome Chuck Santoni who gives so much in support of our belief that . . . "It Shouldn't Hurt to be a Child."

It Takes A Family

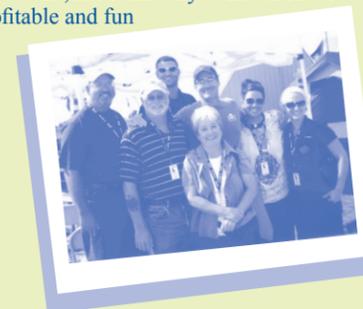


Participating in Roof-Sit is a family affair - Chuck Santoni and wife, Linda here look skyward prior to Chuck's roof top ascent in 2009. Linda's smiling face reflects her support for Chuck and his efforts to prevent child abuse - and for Chuck, knowing that Linda is but a short phone call away helps greatly after the sun goes down on Birchwood Mall.

Another family has also made supporting Roof-Sit a priority in their family for the past few years. The Ceglarek family (pictured below) includes Ron and Jean, Adam and Krystal, and friends, Mark Howard and Kimberly Hankins. The

Ceglareks are responsible for the largest single donation ever made to Roof-Sit, the result of their golf tournament, Golf Fore Kids' Sake, held annually at Black River Country Club. The entire family pitches in to produce a profitable and fun golf event which includes golf, special events and dinner. This year's event will be held September 11, 2010 and all the Ceglareks are already hard at work. They hope you'll join them for this terrific event.

It takes a family - and we salute the families Santoni and Ceglarek for their support in our belief that . . . "It Shouldn't Hurt To Be A Child."



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OUR STORY



In 2010, the St. Clair County Child Abuse/Neglect Council observes its 26th year of providing child abuse prevention services to St. Clair County children and families. As with all small non-profits, the journey has been long and hard fought, with thousands of volunteers donating

their time, money and good will along the way in support of our belief that . . . "It Shouldn't Hurt To Be A Child."

Roof-Sit and all its moving pieces has been crucial in our success story and we simply can not thank our sponsors, WSAQ Radio and the Birchwood Mall enough for their generous and loyal support.

Roof Sit has grown and prospered year to year in spite of a faltering economy, abysmal weather, national tragedies and many, many procedural changes. The funds generated have always remained right here at home and have paved the way for the prevention education of thousands of children county-wide and, since 2007, for the forensic interviews of hundreds of alleged child sexual abuse victims. The very building which

"Alone we can do so little - together we can do so much." - Helen Keller

COMMUNITY ROOF-SIT 2010

How you can participate in Roof-Sit 2010:

- ▲ Help Chuck kick off the event by collecting pledges or making a donation and walking in the Walk for Kids' Sake, September 19, 2010.
- ▲ Become an Angel Investor - \$1000, \$3000, and \$5000 sponsorships available. Details: (810) 966-9911 T-shirt sponsorships also available . . . \$400.
- ▲ Hold a special event (garage sale, casual day, penny collection).
- ▲ Volunteer, buy a T-shirt, tell a friend, take up a collection - you decide, every penny helps!
- ▲ Be A Star for Kids Sake: Personalized Stars \$150 - \$250.
- ▲ Support Prosecutor Mike Wendling and Sheriff Tim Donnellon, Mike McCartan and Debra Johnson in the 5x5 Event, Sept. 23, 2010.

houses all our services was indeed in large part made possible by our donors - and many of our Roof-Sit friends.

Roof-Sit 2010 is another opportunity for our community to support prevention and forensic interviewing services for St. Clair County kids. The steady stream of children and families who visit our facility, and the thousands who benefit from prevention programming, thank you in advance for your generosity.

Whether you choose to be an Angel Investor, become a Star for Kids' Sake, support the Five by Five Event, make a large donation or a small one, or simply listen to WSAQ all week long - WE THANK YOU - FOR KIDS' SAKE.

Those interested in volunteering to help with or donate to Roof-Sit 2010 can reply by mail or call (810) 966-9911.

E-mail: info@sccestopchildabuse.org

▲ Donations: St. Clair County CAN Council
1107 Military St.
Port Huron, MI 48060

The St. Clair County Child Abuse/Neglect Council is located at 1107 Military St. in downtown Port Huron. Office hours are 9:00 - 4:00, M-F.

Visit our website at www.sccestopchildabuse.org
e-mail: info@sccestopchildabuse.org

The St. Clair County Child Abuse/Neglect Council staff and volunteers will be there, as always, in the Birchwood Mall food court - hoping to see you, talk with you, and welcome your participation in the excitement Roof-Sit always generates. We are always humbled by the hundreds of men, women and children who visit Chuck and participate in friendly chatter between ground and roof.

The St. Clair County Child Abuse/Neglect Council, WSAQ Radio, and the Birchwood Mall are truly grateful for the heart-warming support local residents give this event year after year.

Let's join Chuck Santoni and give it our all - making Roof-Sit Sixteen the best ever in support of our belief that . . .

"It Shouldn't Hurt to be a Child."

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LOOKING FOR ANGELS!



Council offers a great way for area businesses and service clubs to become involved in Roof-Sit: Our ANGEL INVESTOR event offers three levels of commitment - \$1,000, \$3,000 and \$5,000.

Angel Investor

Each level offers unique promotional benefits during Roof-Sit week, including T-shirt advertisements, on-air promos, prominent signage at the mall, and breakfast with Chuck on the roof for the \$5,000 donors. It is a popular and fun project for businesses and community members.

If your business or service club would like to contribute to a great cause AND receive great promotional benefits, become an ANGEL INVESTOR! Call 810-966-9911 for details. Complete information packets are available.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ▲ **September 19, 2010:** Family Fun - 12:30 pm
Walk for Kids' Sake - 2:00 pm
Lakeside Park to Birchwood Mall
- ▲ **September 19-24, 2010:** Chuck Lives Roof-Top
- ▲ **September 23, 2010:** Five by Five Event
- ▲ Week long Roof-Sit Special Events:
 - ▲ Canisters - Local Retail Establishments
 - ▲ T-shirt Sales
 - ▲ Be a Star Sales
 - ▲ PREVENTION Education Display - Birchwood Mall
- ▲ **September 24, 2010:** 6:00 p.m. - Chuck Leaves Roof!

WALK FOR KIDS' SAKE

Each year, the Walk For Kids' Sake, led by Chuck Santoni from Lakeside Park to the Birchwood Mall, attracts more and more walkers advocating for kids and helping to kick off Roof Sit. The Walk will take place Sunday, September 19, 2010, beginning at 12:30 pm with fun activities for kids and families, with the actual walk beginning at 2:00 pm. Enclosed in this newsletter is a pledge/donation envelope. Pledges and donations are a great way to help Chuck before he ever hits the roof! The largest group registering and walking will receive free pizza at the mall.

Please join us at Lakeside Park for the Walk For Kids' sake - the atmosphere is casual and fun - and maybe best of all, delicious hot dogs and fries will be served up by Bill Schroeder - The Original Fry Guy! Donations will be accepted for the dogs and fries - even if you can't make the two mile trek to the Mall - come by for dogs and fries - mmm good! Lots of fun activities and a local disc jockey will be rockin' on site - come on down - let's send Chuck upward with more support than ever before!



Five By Five Event

In 2009, Roof-Sit introduced a new event - the 5 x 5, which challenged two of St. Clair County's top "good guys," Prosecutor Mike Wendling and Sheriff Tim Donnellon to spend a day roof-top and attempt to obtain \$5,000 in pledges by 5:00 pm - so they could make it home for dinner on time. Tim and Mike were super successful, raising \$10,000 by late afternoon - getting them both home to their families in plenty of time for dinner. This year, Community Mental Health Executive Director, Mike McCartan and Debra Johnson, CMH Deputy Director (also CAN Council President) plan to join in the 5 x 5 fun and challenge their friends, families and colleagues to help them reach their own awesome total!

We hope you'll join in the fun too and support Tim, Mike, Mike and Deb as they set up camp on the roof for a day in the sun (or rain, or snow, or whatever) in support of their shared belief that . . . "It Shouldn't Hurt To Be A Child."

BE A STAR FOR KIDS' SAKE

Each year, only at Roof-Sit time (September and October) our council provides a special opportunity for donors to become a permanent part of our Child Advocacy Center. We love the slogan, "Be A Star For Kids' Sake" and offer brushed stainless silver personalized stars (small \$150.00 - large \$250.00) to our supporters which will be displayed in the family waiting area of our facility. Stars from 2008 and 2009 Roof-Sits have been installed and look great - we often see visitors carefully looking at the star wall to see who they know being celebrated or memorialized in 'stars.' This is a terrific way to say Happy Birthday, Happy Anniversary, Atta Girl (or Boy), I Love You, or In Memory Of . . . please stop by our mall headquarters for details. We hope you'll honor someone you love as . . . A Star For Kid's Sake.

Note: An open house dedication for star donors is planned tentatively for April, 2011.

FOR KIDS' SAKE



Roof-Sit 2010 is sponsored by:

