



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

## **Board of Directors Virtual Meeting**

**January 21, 2021**

**1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

### **Minutes**

**Members Present:** Tammy Bernier, Rabbi Amy Bigman, Stan Hannah, Bill Hardiman, Sharif Hussein (appointee), Kelle Jo Ilitch, Amy Tattrie Loepp, Earl Major (appointee), Sgt. Martin Miller, Alisande Shrewsbury, Jill Simms, Kristin Totten (appointee)

**Members Not Present:** Willie Dubas, Lauren Rakolta, Orlando Todd

**Guest Speakers:** **State of MI Treasury** - Lan Chen, Woodrow (Woody) Tyler, Nick Whitman  
**Capitol Fundraising Associates** – Rebecca Bahar-Cook

**Public:** N/A

**Staff Present:** Suzanne Greenberg, Heidi Coggins, Alan Stokes, Anne Stokes, Emily Schuster-Wachsberger, Taylor Williams

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Amy Tattrie Loepp, at 1:34 p.m.
2. **Approval of Board Minutes.** The minutes of the board meetings held on December 17, 2020 were approved. **Motion by Amy Bigman and seconded by Bill Hardiman. Approved unanimously.**
3. **Financial Report: Alan Stokes and Suzanne Greenberg**
  - a. The year 2020 final expenses reflected using approximately \$400K of CTF cash reserves. There were no expense anomalies reported in 2020. There was an increase in the tax check-off revenue and a decrease noted in license plate revenues.
  - b. Current 2021 spending is below that of last year's due to the pandemic. There are no current 2021 budgetary anomalies reported.
  - c. The new branding contract is still in MDHHS approval stages.
4. **State of MI Treasury Report: Lan Chen, Woody Tyler and Nick Whitman**
  - a. A slide presentation regarding the Children's Trust Fund investments were reviewed. Of note from that presentation included the following:
    - i. Since 2017 CTF has been able to draw a steady annual 5% of annual dividends.
    - ii. Investment objectives include liquidity, capital preservation and managing volatility.
    - iii. Recommendations moving forward may include increasing 'alternative' investments and potentially trim equities.
    - iv. The presentation slides were subsequently shared with the board.
  - b. A question was asked about how CTF, not being a 501C3 but is an organization required to fundraise, can take advantage of current and future federal stimulus dollars. Woody Tyler said that he will research.
  - c. Regarding a question about funding restrictions, the answer was that CTF funding was a board along with statute decision.
5. **Board Chair Report: Amy Tattrie Loepp**
  - a. Amy introduced and welcomed the new CTF board appointees, Sharif Hussein, Earl Major and Kristin Totten. Their final appointment approvals were forthcoming at the time these

meeting minutes were written. Subsequently on January 27<sup>th</sup> it was learned that Kristin Totten was not approved by the MI State Senate.

- b. On behalf of the CTF board Amy officially thanked and expressed gratitude to Alan Stokes for his dedicated 16 years of service to CTF.
- c. Amy introduced CTF's newly hired fundraising consultant, Rebecca Bahar-Cook. Rebecca's responsibilities will include supporting the Pam Posthumus Signature Auction event. Rebecca noted that she has previously been a CTF board member, has been affiliated with Ingham County's CTF Local Council, has great familiarity with the annual auction and understands the leveraging of federal dollars.
- d. Amy asked the board to review and provide any necessary changes to the latest board contact list which had been distributed.
- e. A board assessment tool which will include identifying skill sets, will be sent out to board members in the near future.

#### **6. Executive Director Report: Suzanne Greenberg**

- a. Suzanne stated that she "looks forward to working with our new board members and fundraising consultant."
- b. In 2020 CTF completed a state audit. Suzanne thanked staff and Alan in particular, for their hard work and efforts through the audit process. Although CTF was found to be a "low risk" organization there were 3 findings identified.
  - i. CTF was cited for not re-evaluating the Local Council structure for more than 10 years. CTF is currently addressing this with having initiated a strategic planning process which includes Local Council input through a facilitation process (which Emily is coordinating) to provide recommendations to the board's programming committee which will then present their final recommendations to the full board for approval.
  - ii. In response to the finding related to a lack of a board self-assessment, this is currently being developed and implemented. **(Need to confirm.)**
  - iii. Ongoing security issues with the online grant monitoring system (EGrAMS) were cited. Resolution to these issues is being completed through MDHHS's EGrAMS team.
- c. Suzanne shared CTF's 5-year vision which included the following area:
  - i. CTF structure and infrastructure including approval processes, Local Council structure, clarifying CTF's role within MDHHS and the state.
  - ii. Leadership identification as the state's premier child maltreatment prevention and child well-being promotional and programming entity.
  - iii. Demonstration of prevention programming impact through data and research.

#### **7. MDHHS Children Services Administration Presentation: JooYeun Chang, MDHHS CSA Director**

- a. JooYeun Chang cited 3 priority areas in CSA's vision.
  - i. The first focused on child safety including, expanding early intervention services, reaching high risk families to provide support, and building an internal structure to enable access and the utilization of services. She noted the importance to build CSA capacity to build and support an array of prevention services.

- ii. The Director also noted that CSA is redesigning how child protective services conducts investigations.
  - iii. Finally, CSA has reorganized itself to increase infrastructural capacity and enhance effectiveness and efficiencies. It is within this context that CSA can explore its relationship with CTF as a prevention partner.
  - iv. Director Chang welcomed CTF board members to contact her at [changj4@michigan.gov](mailto:changj4@michigan.gov).
8. **No Public Comment.** No public members in attendance.
9. **Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Bill Hardiman and seconded by Alisande Shrewsbury with the motion being passed unanimously.** The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.