Parent Leadership Training for Direct Service Participants

On July 27-28, the “Parents Partnering for Change” leadership training is taking place in Ann Arbor for parents and caregivers in CTF direct service programs. Each currently funded direct services program is encouraged to identify a parent to participate in this unique opportunity. The training covers improving leadership skills, making meetings most effective, how to successfully handle conflict, and many other topics. The online application can be accessed at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CTFParentLeadershipTraining. There is NO COST to parents or CTF programs. In addition, parents will receive an honorarium, meals, lodging (if traveling from over 60 miles one-way), and childcare and mileage reimbursements. Please encourage interested parents/caregivers to apply for the training by Tuesday, July 6.

Evaluations from prior trainings have been very positive. When asked what they learned, participants’ responses included:

“Strategies to lead and how others with similar challenges move the world.”
“I do not have to be a spokesperson to be a great leader.”
“How to better deal with conflict by recognizing my own leadership and communication styles.”

In addition, a pre-training teleconference session for direct service staff will be held on Thursday, July 15, from 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. This session will provide an opportunity to learn about the training, the curriculum, and ways to support parents in leadership roles after they attend the training.

If you have any questions about the training or the selection process, please contact Sarah Wedepohl, Project Coordinator, at (248) 761-2553 or swedepohl@me.com. Sarah is with the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI), the organization that is coordinating the training. You can also contact Sarah Davis at CTF with any questions.

Direct Service RFP Updates

Pre-Bid Conference Q&A Responses (from June 16th and questions sent by email through June 23rd) are now available at the following location (http://egrams-mi.com/ctf). On the website page, click “Grant Opportunity Notification” link on the left-hand side of the screen.

The deadline for submitting an application is 3:00 pm, July 13, 2010. All interested bidders must notify their relevant CTF local council PRIOR to beginning the application process in EGrAMS, so that the council can assist with the application process, as well as schedule an endorsement/review process.
Direct Service Grants

Ongoing thanks and appreciation for your commitment to Michigan’s communities!

Tip for this month:
Each day of our lives we make deposits in the memory banks of our children.
--Charles R. Swindoll

Sylvia Brown Jones
Direct Services Coordinator

Direct Services RFP
Cash Match Update

Important note: The deadline for securing a cash match will be August 31, 2010. Any application that is approved for funding in the rating process that does not have the match committed, will be approved contingent upon securing the match by August 31. Any application with such a contingency approval that does not secure the full 20% match by August 31 will be removed from the approved group of applications. All funded applications must obtain this cash match for subsequent years of the contract no later than 60 days prior to the beginning of each contract year, with documented verification emailed to Sylvia Brown Jones within that same timeframe.

Year-end Grant Payments Schedule Notification

Watch your mail for this year-end letter. The Department of Human Services Contract Payments Unit has issued the following timelines for prior and current year bills to meet their FY 2010 year-end deadlines.

a) Submit FY10 current year bills (October thru June) by July 20, 2010
b) Submit July - September 2010 expenditure estimates by September 17, 2010 to establish all year-end accounts payable.

We anticipate that timely submission of bills will also help reduce overestimation and/or underestimation of September bills. A follow-up memo addressing year-end close directions will be sent in July as soon as a firm year-end close out schedule is identified. If you have any questions, please call Sylvia Brown Jones.

Direct Service Workgroup

The next DS Workgroup teleconference will be scheduled for August 26th, from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm. Reminders will be sent out prior to the meeting.

Progress Reports

The third quarterly reports (Financial Status Report, Program Register, and Work Plan) will be due on July 20, 2010. Please stay mindful of the Year-End Grant Payment Schedule listed on the top right side of this page, and contact Sylvia Brown Jones for assistance, or if there are questions.
Highlighting Direct Services Grantees

In the course of preparing for the 2010 Annual Signature Event, CTF solicited success stories from programs throughout Michigan that are supported with CTF Direct Services grants. It was clear from the stories submitted that there are truly meaningful differences being made for children and families. As follow up, CTF will showcase a Direct Services funded program in our News Brief each month.

Berrien County Health Department’s Nurse-Family Partnership Program

Anna’s Story

Getting pregnant was a life changing moment for this young high school junior. Anna* was unsure of what to do and the father of the baby exited her life when he found out she was pregnant. Anna, having been diagnosed with ADD and having to attend some special education classes, worried about having all the skills she would need to take care of a baby plus still reach her goal of graduating high school.

At 14 weeks pregnant, she decided to join the Nurse-Family Partnership program to gain the necessary parenting skills she needed. Anna worked hard at having a healthy pregnancy and enjoyed learning about how she could give her baby the best start in life. Anna went on to have a healthy baby girl and now is a senior in high school. She is on target to graduate and is looking forward to receiving her diploma while her little girl watches from the stands.

Anna loves taking pictures of her little girl and proudly displays a homemade photo album of her pictures. After graduation this mom is interested in doing something in the childcare field.

*Name has been changed.

Facts about the Berrien County Health Department’s Nurse-Family Partnership Program:

- Serves 100 first-time mothers in Berrien County.
- Provides weekly or biweekly nursing home visits with first-time moms beginning in pregnancy and continues until the baby turns 2 years old.
- A nurse home visitor works with mom on a healthy pregnancy outcome, her educational goals and economic self sufficiency, family planning, as well as the health of the infant, immunizations, and the growth & development of the child.
- All work with the client is done in her home setting.
- The importance of reading to a young child is encouraged through a “beginning library” book component of the program.

This story was originally published in the CTF Grantee Success Stories booklet and may be found at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/ctf/Program_booklet_321657_7.pdf.
Tier Projects Updates

The local council tier workgroup projects have made excellent strides towards accomplishing their respective objectives. The results of those projects will soon be ready to launch on the CTF website local council program page, as the new Local Council Resource Library. These informational resources are meant to provide local councils (and certainly others who wish to use the materials) with vital information which may be used to assist and strengthen all councils in a variety of ways. The Tier I group’s board recruitment process provides information about the how-to steps of recruiting local board membership. The Tier II project outcomes build upon the Tier I project by providing a variety of documentation to support the board recruitment process. The Tier III project documentation outputs provide a process as well as supporting documentation about volunteer recruitment. The publication of all of the new documentation will enable and could potentially lead to common standards of practice, a building block for best practices. Each tier group has been meeting monthly via Webinar and phone conference to advance their respective projects.

See below for details about each tier workgroup meeting.

- Tier I – The group will next meet on Monday, July 26th at 10pm.
  To register for the Webinar portion of the meeting go to the following link, https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/716637490. The audio portion of the meeting will be 877-336-1828, access code 8088351.
- Tier II – The group will next meet on Monday, July 19th at 10am.
  To register for the Webinar portion of the meeting go to the following link, https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/303208875. The audio portion of the meeting will be 877-336-1828, access code 8088351.
- Tier III – The group will next meet on Monday, August 2nd at 10am.
  To register for the Webinar portion of the meeting go to the following link, https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/309470458. The audio portion of the meeting will be 877-336-1828, access code 8088351.

Annual Training – Save the Date!

CTF is partnering with the University of Michigan and its conference “Child Abuse & Neglect: Prevention, Assessment, and Treatment.” The conference will take place on October 18-19, 2010, at the Inn at St. John’s in Plymouth, Michigan. A wide array of prevention, child welfare, legal, and medical workshops will be offered. CTF will cover registration costs for up to two attendees per grant. Lodging and registration details will be shared with all grantees as soon as they are available. Please stay tuned!

August Local Council Workgroup Meeting

The next local council workgroup meeting will be Thursday, August 5, at 10:00 a.m. At that time, we will be returning to our regular schedule (the first Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m.). The phone conference line for that meeting is 877-336-1828, access code 8088351. There will be no meeting in July.

Reminder

Third quarter expenditure reports are due on July 20, 2010
Local Councils

Regional Meetings

Two of the 7 scheduled regional meetings took place in June, 2010. These excellent and energized sessions afforded those local councils in the Southeast and Southwest regions respectively, to collaborate, learn and gain support from each other. Each meeting began with introductions. Then, local councils had the opportunity to share in small groups about what they are doing to meet their stated council objectives. One result of those lively discussions in both regional meetings was significant interest by some councils to investigate and possibly adopt for themselves, programs utilized by neighboring councils. Some time was then spent on technical assistance, primarily related to EGrAMS. After lunch (which was provided) a general overview of peer sharing took place, including defining what is meant by peer review and how it may take shape for the local councils. This segment included a fun role-playing exercise of a sample peer sharing session. Tony Awards for all the volunteer actors are certainly warranted. Next, both meetings explored and brainstormed about the possibility of regional fund raising efforts. Feedback about possible regional fund raising efforts from the remaining five meetings will be added to data from the first two meetings. This information will then be synthesized and results shared with all councils at a later date. Finally, there was discussion at both meetings about future regional meetings. Both groups expressed an earnest desire to participate in future local council regional meetings.

CTF would like to express gratitude to Jyoti Gupta of the Council for Children of Washtenaw County and Mimi Otto of the CAN Council of Kalamazoo County for their hosting the first two regional meetings. Their planning efforts and hospitality contributed to making each meeting a great success. Kudos are also in order to Derrick Hartwell of the CTF team for assisting with logistical arrangements for all seven meetings.

CTF is asking that all councils please RSVP for these meetings (if not already done). The responses are important so that CTF can properly plan for all sessions. Councils are invited to have more than one representative attending and CTF will pay for lunch. They are scheduled for 9am – 3:30pm, EST except in Iron Mountain when the time will be 9am – 3:30, CST. Please contact Emily (wachsbergere@michigan.gov) with any questions. See below for further information about the remaining 5 meetings.

- East – Monday, July 12th, Saginaw CAN Council making final address arrangements.
- West – Wednesday, July 14th, Fremont Area Community Center, 4424 West 48th St., Fremont, MI, 49412
- Northern Lower Peninsula, Wednesday, July 28th, BJ’s Banquet Meeting Rooms, 990 N. Center St, Gaylord, MI, 49735
- Western Upper Peninsula, Tuesday, August 17th (Note: 9am CST start), Address TBD
- Eastern Upper Peninsula – Wednesday, August 18th, Village Inn of Newberry, 7552 M-123, Newberry, MI, 49868

Fund Development

Patricia Headley
Fund Development Coordinator

Children’s Trust Fund License Plate Looks to Celebrate Its 10 Year Anniversary!

The year 2011 will mark the ten year anniversary of the Children’s Trust Fund License Plate. As plans are being made for a full-blown campaign to kick-off in January 2011, we ask you to join us in closing out 2010 with the highest sales to date! If you haven’t yet purchased your license plate, please do so. Encourage your family and friends to do the same. Start a friendly competition among your peers, co-workers, etc. to motivate them to purchase a Children’s Trust Fund License Plate.

By proudly displaying your Children’s Trust Fund License Plate you are helping to increase awareness of the Children’s Trust Fund and the very important work of child abuse and neglect prevention that we ALL do! The revenue from the license plates allows us to support child abuse and neglect prevention programs throughout the State of Michigan.

The Children’s Trust Fund License Plate can be ordered when you renew your automobile license plate or any time through a Michigan Secretary of State branch office or online at the Secretary of State Web Site: www.michigan.gov/sos. The Children’s Trust Fund License Plate may also be ordered at the dealership when you purchase a new car. When you purchase a Children’s Trust Fund plate, $25 of the $35 purchase fee is donated to protect Michigan’s children. Each time your Children’s License Plate is renewed, a $10 fee is collected for the Children’s Trust Fund.

Have safe and enjoyable summer travels while proudly displaying your Children’s Trust Fund License Plate!
Greetings to Michigan’s Circle of Parents® network, and ongoing THANKS for a job well done! Our goal is to continue to build statewide capacity. Collaborative partners are always welcome.

Please submit your success stories so that CTF can submit them to the National COP Headquarters for their monthly report.

COP Success Stories
Please submit your success stories so that CTF can submit them to the National COP Headquarters for their monthly report.

Site Visits
I will be planning site visits during the month of July primarily for program technical assistance.

Report Update
COP Jan – March, 2nd quarterly data reports were due on May 15, 2010. To date, there has been an 80% response rate. Please contact Derrick Hartwell at hartwelld@michigan.gov with any questions. It is very important to submit by the due date, so it can be compiled into the state report and subsequently sent to the National COP organization.

Updates
There is an updated electronic version of the COP Parent Handbook available in English at the Circle of Parents page of the CTF Website at http://www.michigan.gov/ctf/0,1607,7-196-40188-137312--,00.html. A Spanish version will be available by the end of September.

CTF conducted its first Circle of Parents Advisory Committee (COPAC) Meeting for the purposes of strengthening and expanding COP program services in Michigan. The committee will meet bi-monthly (every other month) every 4th Thursday of the designated month, from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. However, the next meeting will take place on August 31st, from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. The CTF Conference Call Number is 877-336-1828, Access Code 8088351. Minutes from the first meeting will be sent out in early July. The committee's focus is two fold:

1). Internal Short-term Goals: Build up the committee and strengthen its effectiveness.
   * Build up membership
   * Understand the five Protective Factors
   * Provide an effective environment for an exchange of information to, and from, the COP participants and key stakeholders

2). External Long-term Goals: Strengthening and Expanding COP sites
   * Coordinate sites into a statewide COP Team

“Promote a safe environment for all children, and their families in Michigan.”

“Spread Good Karma!”
**Key Dates/Events**

**July 11:** CARE House of Oakland County will hold its *President’s Ball* on July 11, 2010, at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham, Michigan. For more information on this event, call Shawn Ciavattone at 248-332-7173.

**July 12:** CARE House of Oakland County will hold its Annual Golf Classic on July 12, 2010, at the Oakhurst Golf and Country Club in Clarkston, Michigan. For more information on this event, call Shawn Ciavattone at 248-332-7173.

**July 13:** The deadline for submitting an application for the Direct Service Grant RFP is 3:00 p.m. on July 13, 2010.

**July 22:** The Child and Family Enrichment Council in Isabella County will hold its *2nd Annual Wine Event* on July 22, 2010, at their office at 3333 S. Lincoln, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, from 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. For more information on this event call Dee Obrecht at 989-773-6444.

**July 27-28:** On July 27-28, 2010, the “Parents Partnering for Change” leadership training is taking place in Ann Arbor for parents and caregivers in CTF direct service programs. Please see page 1 of the news briefs for more information.

**July 30:** The Macomb County Care House’s will hold its *6th Annual Golf Classic* on July 30, 2010, at the Pine Valley Golf Club, 16801 31 Mile Road, Ray, Michigan. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. For more information on this event call Care House at 586-463-0123.

**August 5:** The Children’s Trust Fund local council workgroup meeting will take place at 10 a.m. The phone conference line for that meeting is 877-336-1828, access code 8088351.

**August 7:** The Safe Harbor Children’s Advocacy Center will be beneficiaries of the *Allegan Eagles Bike Ride* at Allegan Eagles Club House on August 7, 2010. Call 269-673-3791 for more information.

**August 7:** The CAN Council of Saginaw County will hold its *2nd Annual Kruisin’ 4 Kids Poker Run* on August 7, 2010, at the Grand Central Sports Bar & Grill, 3504 State Street, Saginaw, Michigan. For information contact Ken at 517-819-2633, Amy at 989-529-0091, or Delores at 989-752-7226.

**August 10:** The Child and Family Resource Council will hold a *Hand-in-Hand Tour* at the Child and Family Resource Council office at 678 Front Ave., Suite 210, Grand Rapids, Michigan, at 11 a.m. on August 10, 2010. Contact 616-454-4673 to schedule a tour.

**August 11-12:** The CAN Council of Saginaw County will hold the *WIOG Rooftop* on August 11-12, 2010. Call 989-752-7226 for more information on this event.

**August 14:** The CAN Council of Saginaw County will hold its *Lizard Fair* on August 14, 2010. For more information on this event call 989-752-7226.

**August 20:** Child and Family Services Capital Area will hold its *Tee It Up For Kids! Annual Charity Golf Scramble* on August 20, 2010, at Walnut Hills Golf Club in East Lansing, Michigan. Shotgun start is at 9:00 a.m. For more information call 517-882-4000.

**August 22:** The Child Abuse Council of Muskegon will hold its *Homefront Muskegon* event on August 22, 2010, from 7-11 p.m. For event and ticket information call 231-728-6410.

**August 26:** The Children’s Trust Fund Direct Services workgroup meeting will take place on August 26 at 10am. The phone conference line for that meeting is 877-336-1828, access code 8088351.

*Please submit events for August or September to Alan Stokes by August 2, 2010.*
On July 20, The Future of Children will hold a forum and online webcast to discuss ways that prevention programs can both protect children and save money across a range of social programs. To register for the live event at Brookings, please access the registration online at https://guest.event.com/EVENTS/Register/IdentityConfirmation.aspx?e=c5821d3c-bd89-49b2-b0af-b02d73be49be.

**Sparklers and Safety**

The National Council on Fireworks Safety urges Americans to be Sparkler Smart this Fourth of July in their holiday celebrations. They have developed safety steps for sparkler use that can help protect young children from injury. The safety steps are found on the internet at http://www.fireworksafety.com/news_releases/national_council_on_fireworks.pdf.

**Pediatric Drowning Prevention**

New information on water safety and drowning prevention for children was released by the American Academy of Pediatrics on May 24, 2010, in their online news release at http://www.aap.org/advocacy/releases/may2410studies.htm. Highlights of the changes include an increased emphasis on swimming lessons for young children and child-proofing recreational pools at private residences.
New study reveals spanking can result in more aggressive behavior

“Children who are spanked frequently at age 3 are more likely to be aggressive when they’re 5, even when you account for possible confounding factors.” That’s the reasoning behind a new study co-authored by Catherine Taylor, Tulane University; Jennifer A. Manganello, University at Albany, SUNY; Shawna J. Lee, Wayne State University, and Janet. C. Rice, Tulane University.

The study, which appeared in the May issue of Pediatrics, asked 2,500 mothers an array of questions regarding spanking, child’s level of aggression, demographic features and eight identified maternal parenting risk factors. Included in the article are the results from the “Mothers’ Spanking of 3-Year-Old Children and Subsequent Risk of Children’s Aggressive Behavior” study. It suggests that even minor forms of spanking, or other forms of physical punishment, increase the risk for aggressive behavior in the child. “Parents don’t have to rely on spanking to get the results that they want. If they avoid spanking but instead use effective, non-physical types of discipline, their child has a better chance of being healthier, and behaving better later,” says co-author and community health researcher Catherine Taylor. To read the full article, please visit the MSU Children’s Central website or click the link below: http://www.childrenscentral.msu.edu/outreach.html.

Child abuse requires specialized treatment

In the November 2009 CTF News Briefs, Children’s Central first reported a new pediatrics certification for a subspecialty in child abuse pediatrics. The American Board of Pediatrics gave out the first set of certificates in 2009 to 184 physicians. A recent article on the American Medical News website brought up the importance of this certificate while discussing the role of physicians when they suspect child abuse or neglect. There is a certain line physicians are reluctant to cross when it comes to confronting caregivers about any inflicted physical or emotional trauma to a child. However, as a licensed physician they are required to report cases of suspected child abuse or neglect. According to this article, “child abuse pediatricians are experts in collaborating with each other and communities to implement and evaluate child maltreatment prevention programs. They’re skilled in diagnosis, intervention, interdisciplinary evaluation and case management,” and are being called upon more often when physicians feel hesitant to make the report due to personal feelings towards the parents or lack of trust towards the child protection workers. To read the full article, please visit the MSU Children’s Central website or click the link below: http://www.childrenscentral.msu.edu/outreach.html.

What Do Children Think Dora the Explorer Knows About Fruit Snacks?

Anyone who has seen a child interact with their favorite character knows how strong that relationship can be, but how much do children really think their favorite characters know? Do they understand that the characters are fantasy? Marketers frequently use these characters to promote products, but little is known about how these tactics work, and if children understand why their favorite characters end up on a cereal box. Children’s Central researchers Heather Marron and Dr. Nora J. Rifon are exploring 4 and 5 year-old children’s relationships with these characters to better understand why children have such a strong affinity for the characters and how much they think the characters know about a variety of product categories. A better understanding of these relationships is the first step in the development of policy changes to protect children from marketing tactics that take advantage of these relationships.

The CTF award has stimulated a plethora of interest by faculty in the department of Advertising, Public Relations, and Retailing and other MSU faculty in submitting grant proposals to research child abuse and neglect prevention. There are currently several grant applications under review. Thirty (30) research projects are underway in association with the CTF/MSU collaborative. All projects support the ethical treatment of children.
Sylvia Brown Jones Graduates from Leadership Academy

Sylvia Brown Jones graduated from the Department of Human Services (DHS) Leadership Academy 08 on June 17, 2010. The DHS Leadership Academy is an award-winning program that selects high-potential leadership candidates and accelerates their development to prepare them to step into high-level jobs. The two-year program builds key leadership competencies that are necessary for success.

Since 2005, Sylvia has been an instrumental and essential part of the CTF staff and protects children and strengthens families by serving in the role of the Direct Services Grant Coordinator and Circle of Parents Coordinator. Sylvia is a Licensed Social Worker and has her M.S.W. from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. The Children’s Trust Fund congratulates Sylvia on the completion of this professional development and wishes her continued success in all her endeavors.

Sylvia Brown Jones with CTF Executive Director Michael Foley