

POSITION IN STATE GOVERNMENT

The Children's Trust Fund (CTF) is the state lead agency for CBCAP funding as designated by Michigan's governor. The Children's Trust Fund, administratively housed within the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS), serves as Michigan's only source of permanent funding for the statewide prevention of child abuse and neglect. CTF funds and provides leadership to an extensive network of local child abuse and neglect prevention councils (known as "local councils") and direct service grants, as well as other prevention partners.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Core Services:** CTF currently funds 90 community-based prevention programs across the state. Funding for primary prevention activities (provided via local councils) includes: collaborative prevention initiatives; public awareness campaigns; parent education and youth mentoring programs; trainings and annual conferences; capacity building; violence prevention programs; and many other prevention initiatives. In FY2009, CTF also funded 30 direct service grants in the following areas: parent education/family support programs; home visitation programs; positive youth development programs; youth mentoring programs; teen parenting programs; respite care service; youth homeless shelter; and sexual abuse prevention school education program.
- **Policy achievements:** In FY2009 and FY2010, CTF implemented and built upon a number of new initiatives for Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month including an inaugural Prevention Awareness Day in March 2009 as a kick-off to CAP Month. CTF and Children's Charter of the Courts of Michigan (the PCA co-chapter) held a rally at the State Capitol to launch CAP Month. This new event grew out of Legislative Action Day held in previous years.
- **Outreach to Special Populations/Cultural Competence:** Applicants for direct service grants from CTF are instructed to: "Describe outreach to special populations—including racial and ethnic minorities, children and adults with disabilities, homeless families and those at risk for homelessness, and members of other underserved or underrepresented groups." The presence and clarity of this description are used to score grant applications. CTF provides outreach to special populations, including producing parenting and prevention materials in Spanish, as one example.
- **Parent involvement/leadership:** CTF continues to identify ways to strengthen parent leadership and involvement in CTF programs. During FY2009, grantees facilitated parent involvement through the following mechanisms: parent advisory boards; an annual family and staff retreat; parent representation on the organization's board; monthly parent meetings; focus groups; and a parent coalition that reviewed county-wide services to assess availability of needed services. In addition to direct service involvement, parent representatives serve on CTF state and local council boards and review teams.
- **Evaluation:** Because direct service and local council grantees are diverse in terms of programs, services, budget, staffing, capacity, etc., quantifying collective outcomes is challenging. CTF, therefore, requires all grantees to submit work plans that identify objectives, activities, expected outcomes, and measurement tools. Grantees then report progress and actual outcomes and/or evaluation results on a quarterly basis using EGrAMS activity reports.

EGrAMS program register reports also include quantitative data on populations served and the types of services provided. Additionally, direct service grantees are required to measure client satisfaction and report results on



an annual basis, using a standard CTF client satisfaction form. Grantees facilitate participant feedback through satisfaction surveys, topic surveys, advisory boards, one-on-one discussions with participants, verbal comments, attendance at meetings, and written evaluations of satisfaction. According to surveys,

approximately 95% of participants showed a highly satisfied experience. The 5% that reported dissatisfaction listed reasons such as not enough time with program staff, transportation barriers, or a desire for a more widespread service area.

- Support Training, Technical Assistance, and Evaluation Assistance:** The CTF FY2009 Annual Training was held October 15-16, 2008, with approximately 130 people in attendance. The training built upon the FY2008 training which focused on educating grantees about evidence-based and evidence-informed programs and practices as well as developing logic models.

Participants receiving direct services	# children	11,908	# families	3,829
	# children with disabilities	364	# parents with disabilities	142
Reach	# local grantees	30		
Spread	# training sessions on evidence-based and best practices	A 2-day training	# professionals participating in training	130

ESSENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

Structure for partnership:

CTF’s organizational structure enhances its ability to provide leadership in Michigan. The CTF structure is comprised of a Board of Directors, administrative staff, local councils, direct service grantees, state and local collaborative partners, and interagency partners. By statute, the 15-member CTF Board of Directors, which governs the organization and oversees the budget and operations, must include public agency representation from the Michigan Departments of Human Services, Education, Community Health, and State Police. The remaining 11 public members, who are appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate, provide representation from the following categories: parents, legal community, religious community, organized labor, the business sector, professional human service providers, and volunteers in the prevention field. By statute, the governor designates the Board chair.

The CTF local prevention network is currently composed of 70 designated local councils that serve 80 of Michigan’s 83 counties; and 20 competitive direct service grantees that serve 22 counties.

Key partners:

Public Sector

- Child welfare
- Zero to Three Secondary Prevention
- Public health/maternal and child health



- Education
- Early childhood
- Home visiting
- Mental health
- Head Start/Early Head Start
- Child care
- TANF or cash assistance
- Fatherhood programs
- Michigan State University

Private Sector

- Advocacy organizations
- Community-based organizations
- Fatherhood organizations
- Prevent Child Abuse America
- Faith community
- Business community
- National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Fund

SYSTEM CHANGE EFFORTS

- **Early Childhood:** Michigan CTF strengthened their relationship with the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (Michigan's Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems grantee) through initiatives surrounding parent leadership, protective factors, and the Great Start Systems Team.
- **Child and Family Service Reviews/Program Improvement Plan (CFRS/PIP):** CTF staff was involved in the preparation for Michigan's CFRS/PIP review, and actively participated with the on-site review team by contributing program information, as well as anticipated goals and objectives. The review identified the need for a service continuum that begins with consistent and predictable resources for evidence-based prevention services. Further, CTF noted that a comprehensive prevention services plan needs to be established that articulates current capacity, gaps, and strategies for supporting statewide efforts.
- **Home Visiting:** Michigan CTF served on a state level inter-departmental home visitation group that is preparing an approach for coordinating the use of anticipated new federal funds for home visitation.
- **State Interagency Coordinating Council for Part C:** CTF is actively engaged in the work of the Early Childhood Investment Corporation's Great Start Systems Team (GSST) as a strategy to bring together early childhood leadership from each of the state departments with a role in birth to five programs and services. The group is developing a protocol to address barriers that emerge as local Great Start collaborative team works toward more effective and efficient uses of early childhood resources.
- **Strengthening Families:** During FY 2009, the CTF took on a leadership role as the Strengthening Families lead in Michigan, and began to explore ways to implement the initiative in Michigan. Initial discussions about protective factors and the Strengthening Families framework were held with collaborative partners, including local grantees, the Early Childhood Investment Corporation, Parenting Awareness Michigan, and the Parent Leadership Work Group.
- **Interagency Child Abuse Prevention Task Force:** CTF has responsibility for overseeing the Michigan Citizen Review Panel (CRP) for Prevention (mandated by the United States Congress for states receiving federal CAPTA funding). The CRP for Prevention identified two overarching goals for 2009: first, to gain a better understanding



of how DHS defines prevention (e.g., through policy and services); and second, to more clearly identify any child abuse and neglect prevention programs and/or services currently operating within the department.

- **Other:** During 2009, CTF examined organizational policies and procedures for systemically improving child abuse and neglect prevention services in Michigan and identified two key areas for follow-through in 2010. The first is to support the rural local councils through incentives for consolidation and multi-county collaboration, and the second is to assess ways to improve direct service grant making so that funded initiatives are more sustainable.

FUNDING AND FISCAL LEVERAGING

Fiscal Leveraging

Innovative funding mechanisms:

- CTF continues to serve as Michigan’s only source of permanent funding for the statewide prevention of child abuse and neglect. Michigan’s CTF was established by the Michigan Legislature as an autonomous agency and does not receive any state general funds for operations. CTF is supported by federal funding, individual and corporate donations, tax check-off donations, license plate purchases, charitable fundraising efforts, and interest from the trust account. CTF continues to maintain funding mechanisms that leverage federal dollars and cultivate state and local dollars by fostering private fund development efforts; collaborating with community-based prevention organizations; providing demonstration grants; and establishing interagency agreements with state agencies.

State Allowable Claims	3,977,765
Population-based Allocations	826,117
Leveraged-Funds-Based Allocations	137,372
Final FY 08 Federal Grant Amount	999,069

EVIDENCE-BASED AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED PRACTICES

Level per Program Assessment Rating Tool	CBCAP Funding
Programs Lacking Support or Positive Evidence/Undetermined/Harmful	\$33,392
Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices	\$141,259
Promising Programs and Practices	\$151,819
Supported Programs and Practices	
Well Supported Programs and Practices	



TRAINING TOPICS

Administrative and Management Topics

- Collaboration and partnerships for prevention
- Fiscal leveraging
- Evaluation and data management
- Program monitoring and continuous quality improvement
- Grant reporting requirements
- Strategic planning
- Data reporting requirements

Programmatic and Service Topics

- Research on prevention and child maltreatment
- Evidence-based and evidence-informed programs and practices
- Logic models
- Circle of Parents
- Prevention programs and family support
- Promoting protective factors and reducing risk factors
- Marketing, messaging and public awareness

RESOURCES

- www.michigan.gov/ctf
- www.childrenscentral.msu.edu/downloads/CommunicatorArticle.pdf
- Annual State Profiles: www.friendsnrc.org/

