



# Parents & Practitioners

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### FRIENDS Partners:

- \* Chapel Hill Training Outreach Project, Lead Agency
- \* Child Welfare League of America.  
[www.CWLA.org](http://www.CWLA.org)
- \* Circle of Parents  
[www.circleofparents.org](http://www.circleofparents.org)
- \* Independent Living Resources Inc  
[www.independentlivingresources.com](http://www.independentlivingresources.com)
- \* National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds  
[www.ctfalliance.org](http://www.ctfalliance.org)

The City of Atlanta played host to the 17<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, *Focusing on the Future: Strengthening Families and Communities*, from March 30 – April 4, 2009 at the Marriott Atlanta Marquis. The conference kicked-off on Monday, March 30 with the annual Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Grantees meeting. The opening plenary featured a presentation on Evidence Based Child Abuse Prevention—Using Data to Improve Services and Strengthen Outcomes by Deborah Daro, PhD., Chapin Hall Center for Children and continued with State Peer to Peer Sessions conducted by CBCAP State Lead Agencies with topical discussions on needs assessments, evidence-informed and evidence-based programs and practices, parent leadership, outcome ac-

countability, CBCAP 101, cultural wisdom, the Protective Factors Survey and peer review. The afternoon concluded with presentations on The Quality Improvement Center in Early Childhood, The National Quality Improvement Center on Differential Response in Child Protective Services, Collaboration Strategies for Improved Outcomes for Children and Families and Simple Rules to Complex Behaviors: Child Maltreatment Prevention through the Complexity Science Looking Glass. The night wrapped up with a joint reception for the CBCAP Leads and Strengthening Families Network.

The welcome on Tuesday included an update from ACF Federal staff and Georgia State representatives and followed with a presentation from Glenda Eoyang, PhD., Human Systems Dynamics on

Simple Tools for Complex Change. The morning concluded with ACF joint clusters working on Adaptive Work Plans and the afternoon wrapped up with the CBCAP Cluster Meeting.

The National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect Opening Plenary was Tuesday night with the featured speaker Zeinah Chahine, Director of Strategic Consulting, Casey Family Programs. The national conference continued from Wednesday, April 1 – Saturday, April 4 with numerous plenaries, workshops, poster sessions and seminars that addressed a broad array of interactive sessions to choose from on various disciplines and perspectives around policy, research, programs and practices concerning the prevention, intervention, and treatment of child maltreatment.

### Pinwheels for Prevention by Vicki Robinson

The Alabama Department of Child Abuse Prevention (Children's Trust Fund/ Prevent Child Abuse Alabama) recognized April as Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month by implementing the "Pinwheels for Prevention" campaign as a symbol for child abuse and neglect prevention.

Governor Bob Riley signed a proclamation to initiate the month long focus on child

abuse prevention. Over 5,000 pinwheels were displayed in local communities across the state. Grantees were encouraged to conduct an "Open House" to highlight their role in child abuse prevention and promote community awareness. Blue ribbons were distributed and a sticker parade was organized declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Awareness month. A "CTF RALLY" was held on the steps of Ala-

bama's State House on April 15, 2009 to focus on community activities and public policies that prioritize prevention right from the start. Legislators, grantees and local school children participated in this event to make it successful.

Increased awareness, building community support and changing attitudes are essential to effective child abuse prevention efforts.

## Build a Blue Ribbon Tree for Kids by Sherie Trice

Oklahoma introduced a new element into Child Abuse Prevention Month this past April, inviting every community to simply build a blue ribbon tree for kids. The goal of this event - to create a strong, unified and loud child abuse prevention message that was heard from every town, street corner, and neighborhood across the state. This activity was chosen for its ease and convenience as well as being low cost in tight economic times.

Creativity was encouraged, suggesting live trees be "ribboned" (with permission) and/or homemade materials be utilized to create trees (many



Blue Ribbon Tree for kids

libraries and childcare facilities had blue ribbon trees adorning bulletin boards and complete walls). We also wanted the trees to be something significant and personal to each unique group, such as, having the ribbons represent:

- ▣ The number of confirmed abused and neglected children in their county;
- ▣ The number of new babies born in their community;
- ▣ A number that was significant to their

group/program (i.e. number of children/families served, number of their folks that work for children, etc); or

- ▣ Just a general showing of support for child abuse prevention.

An official **Tree Registry** (with registration form) was put in place so that all trees could be registered and tracked. Photographs and releases accompanied the registrations... by the hundreds! Oklahoma responded in a magnanimous way! This simple activity sparked the interest of an entire state... in a way that surprised everyone! For more information, please contact Sherie Trice at the Oklahoma State Department of Health, [sheriet@health.ok.gov](mailto:sheriet@health.ok.gov) or (405) 271-7611.

## NH Unsung Hero's Awards by Julie Day

As Parent Advocacy Director of the NH Children's Trust Fund, the highlight of my year is our Annual Unsung Hero Award Ceremony. We ask parents and peers throughout the state to nominate parents who go the extra mile and/or are role models to others. These parents are doing the best possible job that they can at this moment.

This event held at the State House, is in collaboration with the Governor's office, along with support from the NH Department for Children, Youth and Families, Early Learning

NH, Head Start and businesses around the state. This year we honored 28 parents for the 28 days of February. Parents receive their award from Governor John Lynch. This event is extra special because the governor takes time to talk to each and every family. The event touches the lives of so many, the honorees, their families and their support system. The Unsung Hero Award reaches out to parents honoring them for all they do. It helps strengthen families and supports our mission of "Keeping children safe and families strong."



From right: Governor John Lynch of NH, Alisa Macone, Kacie DeAvilla, Angela Macone, husband Robert Macone & Joseph DeAvilla. Not shown foster son Joseph Ramon. Alisa is a foster & adoptive mom and Director of Head Start in Salem, NH.

## Children's Trust Fund of Oregon Activities by Tony Stroh

This past April, The Children's Trust Fund of Oregon found itself in one of the busiest times in history. Not only were we evaluating grant proposals for the next two-year granting cycle, we launched one of the newest chapters for Prevent Child Abuse America – Oregon with our partners, the Commission on Children and Families.

Through this collaborative effort, we created community based installations of "Pinwheels for Prevention", attended community rallies in several cities, and participated in a State

Capital Rally for the prevention of child abuse. Through these activities, both the State Senators and State Representatives proudly displayed their pinwheels in their offices and on both floors.

To celebrate all of the tremendous work being accomplished, the Children's Trust Fund of Oregon hosted its annual event, "The Blue Ribbon Celebration" on April 30 and also presented 20 works of art from Oregon Celebrities and Personalities who created their interpretation of "Happy and Healthy Families" which

were auctioned off to the highest bidder. This year we were able to raise an additional \$30K which will be distributed to effective child abuse prevention programs in our state. - Tony Stroh is the Director of Development for the Children's Trust Fund of Oregon, located at 1410 SW Morrison, Suite 501, Portland, OR 97205. Phone: 503-222-7346.



Pinwheels for Prevention

## Keep Your Cool Family Fun Fair A Success by Kelly Sheridan

On June 6, over 1500 adults and children enjoyed The Family Tree of MD's 3rd Annual Keep Your Cool Family Fun Fair in Druid Hill Park! The Family Tree is Maryland's leading non-profit in the fight to prevent child abuse and neglect in the State. June 6th was a fun afternoon of activities and education on how to ensure your family has a safe and healthy summer! Families on hand enjoyed story telling, hands on activities, relays, snacks, rides, and much more. All the activities were free. A

fun display of over 10,000 pinwheels in the Park raised awareness of the lives that can be changed by preventing child abuse; this powerful visual reminded all of us that we play a part in securing children's safety. This event was also an educational campaign with valuable information available from 38 of our state-wide partners, including Johns Hopkins, Mercy, Sinai, Enoch Pratt, Center for Urban Families and Port Discovery.

For those of you who live in the state of Maryland... mark your calendar for June, 2010 for next year's fair —you don't want to miss it!



The Family Tree of Maryland hosted their 3rd Annual Keep Your Cool Family Fun Fair with 10,000 Pinwheels on the hill

## Online Opportunities for Parents and Practitioners

**The National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center (NCCIC)** a service of the [Child Care Bureau](#), is a national clearinghouse and technical assistance (TA) center that provides comprehensive child care information resources and TA services to Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Administrators and other key stakeholders. Visit: <http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov>.

**Triple P** is a program developed in Queensland Australia, and internation-

ally acclaimed system or suite of parenting interventions: multi-level and organized for population dissemination intended for the prevention of social, emotional and behavioral problems in childhood, the prevention of child maltreatment, and the strengthening of parenting and parental confidence supported by a strong and growing evidence base able to be tailored to family needs through flexible formats and delivery. Visit [www.triplep-america.com](http://www.triplep-america.com)

**Liedloff Continuum Network (LCN)**

was created to educate and serve the public, especially parents and anyone who cares about the well-being of infants and children. *The Continuum Concept* suggests practical ways to integrate its principles into daily life. The continuum concept is the idea that in order to achieve optimal physical, mental and emotional development, human beings, especially babies, require the kind of experience to which our species adapted during the long process of our evolution. For more info visit [www.continuumconcept.com](http://www.continuumconcept.com).

## IPC of Dallas Reaches Out to Dads

La Voz de la Familia (The Voice of the Family) is a community partnership program that encourages parents to address the challenges of parenting, and cultivate a "parent voice" to contribute to the shape and direction of their families, programs, and communities. More than 40 members of *La Voz de la Familia*, came together in April to honor National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Comparing the maintenance of a car to the work required to maintain a healthy and happy family, health educator Minerva Holmes sought to reach fathers, who are often less present at our services. Just like cars, families need regular "check ups" to keep going strong. The success of this event was

evident in the fact that several fathers have mentioned that this presentation has taught them to rethink how they are raising their kids.

—submitted by **Anna Madrigal, MA**  
Injury Prevention Center of Dallas



Like cars, families need regular "check ups."

## Onesies With a Message

During April as one of our child abuse prevention month activities, Phoenix (AZ) Children's Hospital distributed onesies with the message "Always Hug Me, Never Shake Me" to all infants and toddlers discharged from our hospital. The onesies were tied with ribbon to our hospital brochure "Coping with Crying". Parents loved the onesies and the information! - **Marcia Stanton, MSA**



## Parents & Practitioners

Editor: Eliza Cooper

### Newsletter Support Staff:

Sam Bowman  
Nancy Connolly  
Brenda Hardy  
Art Hernandez  
Dawn Patzer  
Cynthia Savage

Contact: [parentlove@yahoo.com](mailto:parentlove@yahoo.com)

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**Family Resource Information, Education, and Network Development Service (FRIENDS)**  
National Resource for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention

**FRIENDS National Resource Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) is a service of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau. We are a federally mandated Training and Technical Assistance Provider for CBCAP lead agencies. The Parent Advisory Council is a way that this agency leads by example; Creating avenues for Parent Engagement and Involvement is one way we do so. This Newsletter is a result of parents being supported in their efforts to bridge the way between parents and practitioners working together in effective partnerships.**

**We want to hear from PARENTS about the programs in which they participate, as well as practitioners. This Newsletter is a place for sharing stories, resources, information, and wisdom. You are welcome to contribute any information that is relevant to parent leadership, personal accounts, activities, events, recognitions and more! Your input and suggestions are welcome! Just contact the editor!**

Online Learning Center

[www.friendsnrc.org](http://www.friendsnrc.org)

## FRIENDS Parent Advisory Council At NCCAN

FRIENDS Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Members had the opportunity to participate in Grantees meetings as well as workshops given at NCCAN (see cover story) this past April in Atlanta. At the Grantees meeting FRIENDS PAC members and Circle of Parents helped facilitate one of the State Peer to Peer Sessions called Parent Leaders: Making a Difference from the Parent Group to the Board Room, where a panel of CBCAP leads shared the variety of ways they engage the leadership and expertise of parents.

PAC Members, Eliza Cooper and Dawn Patzer, in partnership with Carla Snodgrass of *Prevent Child Abuse TN*, facilitated a skills seminar entitled "Strengthening Families & Communities in Partnership with Parent Leaders." In that session obstacles that parent leaders face were emphasized by making each obstacle a balloon a parent had to hold. (see picture). Other sessions that partnered with parents

as facilitators were Community Cafes: Changing Lives of Children through Conversations that Matter and Translating Parents Anonymous® Research Findings into Programming & Practice. The voices of parent leaders, as facilitation partners with practitioners lend credibility and authenticity to presentations, bringing application and experience to theory.

Art Hernandez had the honor of presenting the National Jolly K Award to Tiffany Steffey (not present) during Plenary Session III. Later that evening he was awarded the ACYF Commissioner's Award which pays tribute to an individual selected from each state and US territory in recognition of outstanding contributions and commitment to the field of child abuse and neglect. Art was selected to be honored for the State of CA.

Dawn Patzer of TX was particularly moved by a remark made by Catherine

Nolan, Director, *Office on Child Abuse & Neglect*, to "Build down barriers." Dawn shares that "We always think of 'building barriers' and 'tearing down barriers.' Both of those things are negative. 'Building down barriers' is a positive way to look at things. I think if we build down barriers in parent leadership that would be awesome." - *Eliza Cooper*



Workshop on parent leadership involved balloon activity.