Message from the Director

Dear Supporters, Friends and Partners,

It has been a transformative year for the Children’s Trust Fund. We spent much of Fiscal Year 2018 making small tweaks to our programs while I got used to the job and while the staff and Board got used to me. At the Board level, our biggest task was strategic planning. Our critical questions were how do we take our work to the next level and how do we create more impact?

There is a great deal of urgency to our work. The suffering of children is acute and if you open your eyes to it, we see it all around us. There is no time for complacency, stagnation, bureaucracy or mediocrity—we are not doing our jobs if we are not constantly getting better and pushing ourselves to do more for children.

In the coming years, CTF will change. We are moving towards more targeted funding, improved measurement of the results of our investments and greater engagement with state and local partners to improve systems that support Missouri children and families. We are dedicated to reducing rates of child abuse and neglect in Missouri—and we will keep changing and growing until we achieve this.

Take care,

Emily van Schenkhof,
Executive Director
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or 573-751-9301
Our Mission:
The Missouri Children’s Trust Fund works to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect through grant distribution, education, awareness and partnerships.
The Capable Kids and Families® (CKF) program was born from a dream of Founder Jean Darnell in Rolla. Jean’s twin babies were born at 30 weeks gestation and were diagnosed with cerebral palsy at the age of two. She struggled with insurance companies to access expensive equipment needed to encourage their development and improve their quality of life. Her experience made her determined to realize an improved method to support families of children with disabilities and delays.

“Although we had many incredible doctors and therapists, I still felt very alone. The stress and financial impact were overwhelming at times. I knew there had to be a better way. I began to dream of a program that would support families through home visits to reduce the isolation they felt and to provide someone to listen to their fears. I dreamed of a program that would allow parents to talk to other families traveling the same path. I dreamed of a therapy equipment loan program that would reduce the frustration of not having the tools to help their child.” – Jean Darnell, Executive Director, The Community Partnership-Rolla

In 2001, The Community Partnership submitted a grant proposal to the Missouri Department of Social Services that encompassed all of these dreams, and Capable Kids and Families® was created and now serves one hundred families. Jean’s dream come true is currently being replicated by the St. Louis ARC, the Community Partnership of the Ozarks (Springfield) and The Special Learning Center (SLC)(Jefferson City), each serving fifty families.

In particular, CKF works with families who have children from birth to seven years old who have developmental delays and disabilities. A child with cerebral palsy can receive help learning to walk or a deaf child can be taught sign language. The program includes:

- monthly home visiting from certified early childhood special educators, available 24/7.
- a developmental therapy equipment loan program free for families to share everything from trikes, puzzles and toys to interactive books and walkers.
- family social events to foster connection, such as adaptive gymnastics/swimming, holiday parties, field trips, music therapy.

Two-year-old Michael grew up within the CKF program. He has Fetal Alcohol Syndrome that will affect him the rest of his life. He receives most of his nutrition through a feeding tube and has difficulty swallowing safely. Michael’s adoptive mom said their home visitor has shared toys, DVDs and equipment that intrigue her son and encourage him to move, teach everyone new signs, and help with feeding. She said purchasing those things would come with a large price tag. She was nervous before attending their first music therapy group event after dealing with Michael’s feeding issues, the syndrome diagnosis and his adoption, but quickly felt comfortable. ‘Michael’s unique needs didn’t stick out. He was just another kid being a kid. I met another mom and her son, and we look forward to seeing them at events.’

All parents experience stressors, but many families with a special needs child have uniquely complicated and challenging lives. They may feel extreme isolation, loneliness, depression, be scared and experience a higher level of emotional and financial stress. Extra stress, frustration and pressure can be powerful influencers in weakening a parent’s ability to care for their vulnerable child, and that may lead to maltreatment. Programs like CKF that work to address and reduce these stressors are extremely valuable in preventing child abuse and neglect.

“The ultimate CKF goal is for our families to feel supported and know that others care about them and want to help them through their journey,” said Pam Mayfield, SLC Program Director. “We hope to provide them the resources and relationships they need to be successful in parenting their child with special needs.”

“Children with disabilities are at least three times more likely to be abused or neglected than their peers without disabilities, and they are more likely to be seriously injured or harmed by maltreatment.”

The bequest from the Marigene Smith Brewer Estate was the largest single private gift in CTF’s history.

“Marigene was a dedicated professional who advocated for strong and responsive services for students with disabilities, but also a person with a wonderful sense of humor – an exceptionally nice person,” said John Heskett, CTF Board of Directors Chair. “Her gift to CTF came as a complete surprise, but that was who Marigene was. A person who did not seek out recognition, but a person who saw needs and responded in kind. Thank you Marigene for your generous gift.”

“The teaching experiences helped her form the realization that without interventions, students are at higher risk of school and social failure,” said Brenda Allen, Marigene’s cousin. “The idea that children all over Missouri will benefit from a grant in Marigene’s name makes us so very proud. We can think of no more fitting tribute.”
Children’s Trust Fund Sponsored Training

CTF sponsored the following trainings in Fiscal Year 2018. Thank you hosts and attendees for helping us work to reach the knowledge #TippingPoint! Prevention is a shared responsibility!

Darkness to Light Stewards of Children (SOC) Training - Preventing Child Sexual Abuse

five trainings
71 people trained

Strong Parents, Stable Children (SPSC) Training: Building Protective Factors to Strengthen Families

eight trainings
262 people trained

“100% of families who were discharged from Healthy Families America had no additional Family Court involvement due to child abuse and/or neglect during their time in the program.”

- Melody Morgan, Healthy Family Connections Home Visiting Program, Child Abuse Prevention Association (CAPA) - Independence

Get Your License to Care

You can help prevent child abuse by proudly displaying the official CTF license plate on your vehicle. Order yours today.

“it’s easier to build strong children than to mend broken men.”
- FREDERICK DOUGLAS

Program Disbursement License Plate Partner (LPP) Grants
Fiscal Year 2018
(July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)

• The CTF ‘prevent child abuse’ license plate, featuring the green child handprints, is the #1 choice for specialty plates in Missouri.
• LPP throughout Missouri help promote and sell the plates to increase prevention awareness and raise funds that are returned directly back to their community prevention programs.
• During Fiscal Year 2018, CTF distributed a total of $113,724 to twenty-nine (29) License Plate Partners to serve more than 10,999 children, parents, other caregivers and the general public.

Children’s Trust Fund
Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Report
Program Disbursement Prevention Grants Fiscal Year 2018
(July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)

“We could not begin to make gains towards our mission of preventing the abuse and neglect of children without our community-based partners. These are the folks that work directly with families every day to build protective factors known to prevent or mitigate risk factors associated with child abuse and neglect. Supporting them in their work is the most important part of what I do here at the Children's Trust Fund.”

– Laura Malzner, CTF Program Director

CTF is the governor-appointed Missouri state lead for the Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) funding. CBCAP funds are awarded through the Federal Department of Health and Human Services/Administration of Children, Youth and Families.

Grant Funding Summary
For FY 2018, CTF awarded $1,008,910.30 to fifty-four (54) prevention programs throughout Missouri.

54 Child Abuse/Neglect Prevention Projects - $1,008,910.30

40 Child Abuse/Neglect Prevention Projects - $758,261.75

2 Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Community Impact Grants - $200,000

12 Discretionary Grants – $50,648.55
“I am thankful that I am alive, that I have learned new skills, and that my four children have a stronger and more capable mother today that they did two years ago. They never gave up on me.”

Family Empowerment Program, Saint Louis Crisis Nursery - St. Louis

Number/Program Type

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<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Program Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Parent/Family Education &amp; Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Teen Parent Education &amp; Support/Teen Pregnancy Prevention</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Home Visiting</td>
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<td>Safe Sleep</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Mentoring</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Support for Fathers</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Crisis Nursery/Respite Care</td>
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<td>Collective Impact</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Child Sexual Abuse Prevention</td>
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<td>Community Education &amp; Awareness Training</td>
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TOTAL: 54

Since 1983, the Children’s Trust Fund has allocated $62 million to prevention programs in communities throughout Missouri.

Total Persons Served:

24,559+

11,933 Children

9,682 Parents/Expectant Parents, Caregivers, and Professionals

“For the first time in my life, I feel confident and supported. I have caring people around me who are not only helping me become a better parent, but also helping me become the very best version of myself.”

Front Porch Alliance – Kansas City
CTF FINANCIAL STATEMENT
Fiscal Year 2018
(July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)

REVENUE
Federal ........................................ $418,728.58 (18%)
Donations & License Plates ........ $142,094.20 (6%)
Interest ........................................ $45,576.45 (2%)
Marriage License Fees ............... $1,020,996.62 (43%)
Vital Records ............................... $408,162.84 (17%)
Sales (from materials) .............. $1,456.00 (>1%)
Registrations (SPAC) ............... $548.53 (>1%)
Brewer Bequest ......................... $259,719.84 (11%)
Income Tax ................................. $63,813.41 (3%)
TOTAL REVENUE ..................$2,361,096.47

EXPENDITURES
Personnel .................................... $317,717.47  (16%)
Expense & Equipment .............. $90,535.84 (5%)
Program Disbursement .......... $1,552,404.87 (79%)
• Prevention Grants, License Plate Partner Grants,
  Initiative Grants, Training Grants, Marketing/Public Education
TOTAL EXPENDITURES: ........$1,960,658.18

ENDING FUND BALANCE:  $4,076,408.83

Looking Forward…
Child Abuse and Neglect
State Prevention Plan
Fiscal Year 2019
(July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)

Strategic Initiatives
In addition to funds awarded, CTF will embark on several new efforts in FY 2019 including:
1. Integrate data and epidemiology into our decision-making process
   In order to prevent child abuse, we have to understand what it looks like, where it is occurring and any emerging statewide patterns.
2. Identify funding opportunities
   • Evidence-based child abuse prevention
3. Strengthen grantees monitoring and outcome measurement
   CTF plans to develop the infrastructure to effectively evaluate the impact of our grant funding.
4. Create a social norms campaign
   CTF hopes to be better able to measure the impact of our public awareness efforts by focusing on changing social norms that affect child abuse. In FY 2019, we will begin the process of developing a statewide social norms campaign.
5. Develop a public policy presence
   CTF recognizes that policy and systems change is necessary to prevent child abuse. Funding community-based projects will not ultimately make an impact in children’s lives if the policy and systems in Missouri do not create a supportive environment for local community efforts.
6. Build CTF organizational resources
   In FY 2019, CTF plans to strengthen the capacity of staff and Board, including hiring a new staff person, re-organizing staff roles, increasing Board diversity, updating Board bylaws and policies and beginning to consider how to increase public and private investment in CTF.

Did you know...
CTF receives $15 for each marriage license issued in the State of Missouri by the county Recorder of Deeds and $7 for each certified copy issued.

CTF receives $5 for each vital record issued by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

In 1983 CTF became the very first tax check-off program appearing on the Missouri State Tax Form.

In 1997 the state legislature approved the CTF Prevent Child Abuse License Plate, becoming only the second child abuse prevention license plate to be implemented in the country.

We received $63,813.41 from 3,085 Missourians who donated through the Missouri Tax Check-Off Program. That’s $21 per person!

Check Off Child Abuse in Missouri