



CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND GRANT OPPORTUNITY

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION

FUNDING AVAILABILITY

The Missouri Children's Trust Fund ("CTF") is pleased to announce the availability of up to \$400,000 annually over four years for the establishment, continuation, and/or expansion of community-based initiatives to prevent child sexual abuse. This grant opportunity will award individual applicants up to \$100,000 annually between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2027, with the potential for one, two-year renewal.

ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY

Nonprofit organizations in any part of the state may apply for this grant opportunity, including current CTF grantees.

BACKGROUND

CTF has a long-term commitment to preventing child sexual abuse in Missouri. We began this commitment in 2019 and have since secured dedicated state funding and released two, previous grant opportunities specific to this distinct form of child abuse. This grant opportunity is the re-bid of our first child sexual abuse prevention funding release, which is set to expire on June 30, 2025.

CTF'S CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION PHILOSOPHY

CTF believes we have a responsibility to serve our state's most vulnerable children and families. Though child sexual abuse affects children of all socio-economic statuses, we are similarly inclined to focus our child sexual abuse prevention resources on efforts to strengthen families and communities that disproportionately experience hardship and vulnerability.

We believe that meaningful, lasting change on an issue as complex and persistent as child sexual abuse requires a proactive, multi-faceted, and collaborative approach. This belief is the foundation for the model that we promote and fund for community-based child sexual abuse prevention initiatives.

We believe that children are inherently vulnerable, and adults are therefore responsible for preventing child sexual abuse. This includes abuse initiated by other children, as children need adult guidance and oversight to practice responsible sexual behaviors.

And finally, we believe a great deal of untapped potential lies in addressing factors underlying sexual abuse perpetration (sexual abuse "initiation" in the case of children), and that we should be courageous in seeking and implementing perpetration-prevention solutions.

FUNDING GOALS

This funding is intended to establish, continue, or expand community-based initiatives to prevent child sexual abuse. More specifically, the goals of this funding are to equip and empower communities to:

- Prevent the development and initiation of problematic sexual behavior in children under 18 years of age;
- Treat children with identified problematic sexual behaviors; and
- Prevent child sexual abuse victimization with a focus on adults and youth-serving organizations.

FUNDING CRITERIA

CTF will consider proposals to establish, continue, or expand community-based projects that use a coalition of key community partners to plan and implement multiple child sexual abuse prevention strategies. All project strategies must aim to achieve one or more of the following objectives:

- Build and sustain community awareness and actionable efforts to prevent child sexual abuse, with a focus on settings where abuse most often occurs, populations most likely to experience abuse, and populations most likely to initiate abuse;
- Build adults' capacity to protect children from sexual abuse, both in-person and online (e.g., Stewards of Children, NetSmartz, Project SELFIE: Keeping Youth Safe on the Internet, Adult Responsibility Project);
- Build youth-serving organizations' capacity to create and maintain physical spaces and interactions that minimize risk for child sexual abuse (e.g., Stewards of Children, Awareness to Action);
- Build children's and adolescents' capacity to understand, respect, and practice appropriate sexual boundaries and behaviors. This could be achieved through direct education for children (e.g., Safe Dates, Shifting Boundaries, Project Selfie, PSB-CBT, TF-CBT for Trauma-Related PSB) and/or education that empowers adults to discuss and enforce this information with the children in their lives.

Proposals will also be subject to the following guidelines:

- Proposals that exclusively focus on awareness activities will not be considered. Awareness activities must be paired with practical strategies to minimize the risk of child sexual abuse.
- Funding for school-based education programs will be restricted to those that focus exclusively on promoting healthy relationships, boundaries and behaviors among children and youth.
- New projects may focus on implementing a single strategy at the beginning of the grant period but are expected to implement at least one additional strategy (two strategies total) by the end of the four-year grant cycle.
- Funding will not be awarded for *new* Problematic Sexual Behavior – Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (PSB-CBT) programs. However, funding may be awarded for the *continuation of existing* PSB-CBT programs, as well as *new or continued* Advanced Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) for Trauma Related Problematic Sexual Behavior programs.
- Applicants may request funds for the local adaptation and promotion of CTF's *Something We Agree On* positive community norms campaign.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

The following types of proposals will receive priority consideration:

- Continuation of programs originally funded in state fiscal year 2021 that are deemed promising or successful by grant reviewers and CTF;
- Establishment of new programs in communities with a demonstrated high risk of child sexual abuse. Applicants are strongly encouraged to use local and timely indicators supported by research to demonstrate child sexual abuse risk.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE

The application process will consist of two stages:

1. **Letter of Intent ("LOI"):** All applicants must submit an LOI per the instructions in Attachment 1. The form in Attachment 1 should be page 1 of your submission. Submissions must be in PDF format and are **due to CTF by 11:59 pm CST, February 23, 2025**. Reviewers will screen LOIs

based on the proposed project's alignment with funding goals and criteria, as well as CTF's history with the applicant.

2. **Full Application:** CTF will send screened-in applicants an invitation to submit a full application no later than March 16, 2025. Full application instructions will be sent with invitations to apply. In addition to the written application, interviews with applicants may be conducted to provide the review panel with a more complete and accurate understanding of the proposed project. Full applications (invitation-only) will be **due to CTF by 11:59 pm CST, April 27, 2025**.

AWARDS

CTF will notify all applicants of their award status after approval by the CTF Board of Directors in early June 2025. Contract execution will occur upon the applicant's successful completion of all award acceptance requirements and contracts will be effective July 1, 2025.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

CTF will host an informational meeting for potential applicants on **February 3, 2025, at 12:30 pm CST**. Attendance is encouraged to learn more about this grant opportunity and ask questions. Registration is required to participate and can be completed at <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/S8gvaWkcR5OBDmTaPzYPFw>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Successful applicants must comply with the following requirements to receive funding:

- Attend all required CTF Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Grantee meetings, which includes at least one in-person meeting per year in Jefferson City, MO;
- Participate in periodic meetings with CTF's contracted child sexual abuse prevention technical assistance provider;
- Enter project data monthly in CTF-approved databases for program evaluation purposes. Required data will be specific to the funded strategies and may include limited, individual-level data depending on the strategy. Monthly outputs and metrics tracking, as well as current data collection forms and requirements for projects using Stewards of Children, Awareness to Action, and/or treatment programs for children/youth with problematic sexual behavior can be found in [Appendix A \(CSAP Data Collection Forms and Tools\)](#). CTF evaluators will collaborate with grantees and CTF to determine required data for other strategies not mentioned here;
- Submit programmatic report annually in July;
- Complete fingerprint-based criminal background check for all project staff working with children under 18 years of age;
- Participate in Missouri Family Care and Safety Registry Program;
- Participate in a grant monitoring visit within the first 18 months of the contract start date and as needed thereafter;
- Invoice CTF monthly or quarterly for reimbursement of project-related expenses incurred during the contract period;
- Participate in the federal E-Verify Program;
- Have no taxes due to the State of Missouri; and
- Be in good standing with the federal government.

CTF CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions about this grant opportunity, please contact Jennifer Sommerfeld, Program Director, at Jennifer.sommerfeld@oa.mo.gov or (573) 751-6511.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES

Lucy Faithfull Foundation's [Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Interventions Database](#), a catalogue of more than 200 interventions that are based on published research or documentation from the relevant organization and filterable by the age of your target audience.

Missouri Children's Trust Fund's & MOORE's [Child Sexual Abuse Prevention White Paper](#)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [Sexual Violence Prevention Resource](#)

Framework Institute's and MOORE's [Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Communication Toolkit](#)

National Children's Alliance [Overview of Best Practices and Treatment Models for Youth with Problematic Sexual Behaviors](#)

[Awareness to Action Missouri](#), a child sexual abuse prevention training & consultation program for youth-serving organizations

[Stewards of Children](#), a child sexual abuse prevention education program for adults and youth-serving organizations

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's [NetSmartz](#), an adult and child education program on online citizenship and safety from abuse

Prevent Child Abuse Vermont's [Project SELFIE: Keeping Youth Safe on the Internet](#), an education program for adults on how to protect youth from adolescent sexting, online grooming, online pornography, and in-person acquaintances of youth who use digital communications as a grooming tactic.

Prevent Child Abuse Vermont's [Adult Responsibility Project](#), a child sexual abuse prevention education program for adults

CTF's [Something We Agree On](#) Positive Community Norms Campaign

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**CHILDREN’S TRUST FUND
CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION GRANT OPPORTUNITY
LETTER OF INTENT (LOI) SUBMISSION FORM**

Please review the full request for proposals before submitting a letter of intent.

Organization Name: _____
 Street Address: _____
 City, State, Zip Code: _____
 Telephone Number: _____
 Federal Tax ID #: _____

Contact Name(s)	Contact Title(s)	Contact Email(s)

Name of Proposed Project: _____

Funding Request Estimates:	Year 1 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026)	\$ _____
	Year 2 (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027)	\$ _____
	Year 3 (July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2028)	\$ _____
	Year 4 (July 1, 2028 – June 30, 2029)	\$ _____

Please respond to the following prompts in three pages or less and attach your responses to this form:

1. Cover letter from applicant agency – Please include a cover letter from the applicant organization’s executive director or other key personnel explaining your interest in preventing child sexual abuse in your community.
2. Community and population to be served – Identify the area to be served by city and/or county and the population(s) to be served by all relevant demographics.
3. Brief description of the child sexual abuse prevention project – Describe the strategies that will be used to prevent child sexual abuse in your service area and the key community partners that will help to plan and implement them.

LOIs must be submitted in a PDF format to ctf@oa.mo.gov no later than 11:59 pm CST, February 23, 2025.