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A newsletter of the New Hampshire Children's Trust Fund, reporting on our efforts in "keeping children safe and families strong" in New Hampshire.

I. Our Mission

The New Hampshire Children's Trust Fund was established in 1987 by legislative statute RSA 169-C:39 to support programs in New Hampshire that work to prevent child abuse and neglect. Our focus is primary prevention initiatives that keep children safe and families strong.

II. Governance

The business and affairs of the NHCTF are managed by a Board of up to 16 members.

The Board is composed of:

- three members knowledgeable about child development, child health, child psychology, education, juvenile delinquency, or related fields;
- three members knowledgeable about the organization and administration of volunteer community services and grant administration;
- two members knowledgeable about banking, finance, investments, tax law, business, or public relations;

Appointees:

- two from the NH Senate appointed by the President of the Senate;
- two from the NH House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- the Attorney General, or a designee;
- one from the Division of Children, Youth and Families appointed by the Commissioner of the NH Department of Health and Human Services;
- one from the Department of Public Health

appointed by the Commissioner of the NH Department of Health and Human Services;

- one appointed by the Governor.

III. Sources of Funds

Since 1996, the Governor has designated the NHCTF as the lead agency eligible to receive CBCAP (Community Based Child Abuse Prevention) funds, under CAPTA (Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act) Title II. These federal dollars are allocated to the states on a per child formula. These funds are combined with our endowment at the NH Charitable Foundation and with annual donations and are granted annually to organizations that work to strengthen and support families. In the past 19 years, the NHCTF has granted over \$2.14 million to more than 330 community-based programs at 128 different organizations in NH.

IV. Programs Supported

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Family Support Grant Programs– We believe that the best way to prevent child abuse and neglect is to provide parents, caregivers, and other adults with the skills and support they need to raise healthy children. To this end, the NHCTF provides financial support to community-based programs each year.

Technical Assistance and Training– In addition to funds, the NHCTF also provides training and technical assistance necessary to the development of effective programs and strong organizations. Currently, our training focuses on capacity building, fund development, governance, and outcomes measurement.

Support to Family Support NH– Formerly known as Network New Hampshire, this is a statewide coalition of community-based family resource centers supported by the NHCTF and other public and private dollars. This group links local family resource centers with the latest research in the field and on emerging practices across the country, and provides a network of peer support.

Public Education– The NHCTF is actively involved in statewide public education efforts to promote the concept of creating caring communities that support children and their families.

Smith Award– Given every two years, this award recognizes and rewards best practices by a non-profit, community-based organization. Past recipients include Families First of the Greater Seacoast, Concord Heights Neighborhood Family Center, HUB Family Resource Center in Dover, the Family Resource Center at Gorham, and the Grapevine Family and Community Resource Center of Antrim.

Strengthening Families Through Early Care and Education– NH was selected in 2005 as one of seven states nationally by the Center for the Study of Social Policy for a new prevention program reaching families and their children under the age of six. NHCTF in 2006 received a two year grant from the National Alliance of Children's Trust Funds and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation to create prevention partnerships with family support programs and to launch parent advocacy training.

Keeping Children Safe and Families Strong

20 Years of Strengthening Families in New Hampshire: 1987–2007

Part of a National Trend – Creating children's trust funds to help abused and neglected children

Nearly 30 years ago, Michigan pediatrician, Dr. Ray Helfer, widely credited with the idea of children's trust funds to help abused children, applied for a fishing license and discovered that the fees were used to protect fish. Dr. Helfer thought that the abused and neglected children he saw could benefit from such a fund, and began advocating with others, like the National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, (now PCA America), with political and community leaders and with his fellow pediatricians. In 1980 the

first children's trust fund was created in Kansas, the second in Michigan, New Hampshire was 36th created in 1987. By the late 1980's each state had a children's trust fund, expressly created for the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Today most (80%) are embedded in state governments, benefiting from license plate fees, birth certificates, and tax check-offs.

The New Hampshire Way

New Hampshire's Children's Trust Fund is a stand alone nonprofit, created by the legislature as a public private partnership,

governed by a board of trustees, half appointed due to their public positions; and half representative of certain related interests, like child development knowledge. The intent was an entity with close working relationships with all those who work with children.

Many of the early advocates, leaders, continues on page 3

TODAY: Our newest project – offering parenting information in every community in New Hampshire!

Thanks to very generous support from Verizon which is sponsoring 30 libraries, with additional sponsorship from the Bank of America, Fidelity Investments, Saul Sidore Foundation and First Colebrook Bank, NHCTF launches the first phase of a **statewide Parenting Literacy Project** during April, *Strengthening Families Month*.

The goal is to reach ALL families in New Hampshire by providing parenting resources in a publicly accessible place—local libraries. PLP provides information about parenting, managing day to day stress, nutrition, finances, child behavior and child development with a full set of continues on page 3



Pictured are the NH Charitable Foundation's CEO Lew Feldstein, NHCTF Chair Sharon Nordgren, Fund Drive Chair Lucy Fowlkes Breed and Charles deGrandpre, from the Lou and Lutza Smith Foundation, one of the major beneficiaries to the endowment campaign, successfully completed in 1996, in order to receive the state match.



SPRING 2007 ISSUE...

New Trustees p.2

Families are PRIMARY p.3

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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This newsletter is a publication of the New Hampshire Children's Trust Fund. Please contact us if you know someone who would like to be on our mailing list...

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New NHCTF Web site—Check it out!



*Congratulations to Katie Brandt,
 newly elected President of
 Family Support New Hampshire*

Trustees welcome three new members in January, bid farewell to two long-term supporters

In January, House Speaker Terie Norelli appointed **Representative Anne Grassie** of Rochester to the NHCTF Board, replacing Representative Sharon Nordgren of Hanover. Senate President Sylvia Larsen appointed **Senator Martha Fuller Clark** of Portsmouth and **Senator Sylvia Roberge** of Bedford, replacing herself and Senator Peter Burling of Cornish.

The Board and staff express their appreciation to the departing trustees for their service, and understand the new demands on their time precluded ongoing commitment. Former Trustee Nordgren served for 16 years, including a 4-year term as Board Chair, Senator Larsen served for 8 years. Both were particularly helpful during the establishment and expansion of the NHCTF.

Representative Grassie, in her 7th term, is a member of the Children and Family Law Committee, on the Rochester School Committee, and will be the Director of the new Dover Child Development Center at the McConnell Center opening in April. She has a deep understanding of the interests of children and early childhood development. She recently represented NH at a national meeting sponsored by the National Council on State Legislatures in Chicago which featured the Strengthening Families Through Early Care and Education Programs. Also representing NH were Representative Ed Moran of Bedford, and the NHCTF Executive Director.



Senator Martha Fuller Clark, now in her 2nd term as state senator, served in the House of Representatives for 6 terms. She is Senate Majority Whip, Chair of Energy, Environment and Economic Development and Vice Chair of the Executive Departments and Administration Committee. She is a member of the Health and Human Services Committee and the Education Committee.

Senator Sylvia Roberge, longest serving state senator, is considered the Dean of the Senate, serving her 12th term. She is a member of the Commerce, Labor and Consumer Protection Committee, and the Public and Municipal Affairs Committee. Her priorities include holding the line on taxes, making government more responsive to the public and promoting legislation leading to planned growth. ☺



Highly recommended

- Reading: *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, by Robert Fulghum, 15th anniversary edition
- Website: www.momsrising.org
- Buy flowers and support prevention: Prevent Child Abuse America is partnering with Florist Telegraph Delivery (FTD)

For every purchase made, FTD will contribute to child abuse prevention. In NH, we will receive 15% of all FTD purchases originating in NH. Call 1-800-SEND-FTD and mention *Promotional Code 13069* or go to www.ftd.com/nhctf

NHCTF is going paperless!

Sign up to receive our e-newsletter and keep current on news and events at NHCTF.

Go to
<http://www.nhctf.org/ne/nl.html>
 and sign up today.

***Get the news you can
 use right away!***

Families Are PRIMARY is the theme of the **Parent Advocacy Training Program** which offers regional and statewide workshops to assist parents develop “Real Clout” and speak up for what they need in child care, health care, affordable housing. These workshops are being offered in partnership with the HeadStart Parent Advisory Council, PrioritiesNH, Child and Family Services, Early Learning NH, the Public Policy Institute, and NH Women’s Lobby. Information at www.nhctf.org. Bumper stickers that show you value families are



available at NHCTF and local grantees. We believe families should be first and **primary** in our state, that their children’s **primary** years are critical, and that everything we do to support families is of **primary** importance. Thanks to Parent Leader Julie Day

of Concord’s Children’s Place for coming up with the slogan, “Families Are PRIMARY”— she gets it and we hope everyone will! ☺

NHCTF History *continued from page 1*

and sponsors of the original legislation are still involved with helping children including Representatives Mary Jane Wallner, Sharon Nordgren, Mary Stuart Gile and Former House Speaker Doug Scamman.

Significant milestones have enabled CTF to expand its prevention impact: since 1996, it has been designated by NH’s Governor as the State’s Lead Agency to receive federal Community Based Child Abuse Prevention funds annually, under CAPTA Title II. In 2004 Prevent Child Abuse America selected the NHCTF as its NH Chapter. That same year, with the assistance of Senator Gregg’s office, NHCTF received a grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Pre-

vention, funding the expansion of the national program, Circle of Parents, in partnership with Child and Family Services. and a statewide Prevention Summit. In 2005, the Center for the Study of Social Policy selected NH as one of seven pilot states in the nation for its new prevention initiative, Strengthening Families Through Early Care and Education. Because of its early involvement in this effort, NHCTF was well positioned to receive a \$50,000 two year grant from the National Alliance for Children’s Trust Funds and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation to expand prevention partnerships between early care centers and family support programs and to launch

parent advocacy training. In 2005, the NHCTF issued its first annual Family Support Outcomes Report, measuring the impact of prevention statewide and continues, through a partnership with NH’s Division for Children, Youth and Families, to expand evaluation services through training, technical assistance, data analysis and reporting. ☺



NH’s Belknap County Program was selected to present at the Biennial National Conference in Portland, Oregon, sponsored by the federal Office of Child Abuse and Neglect in April. Belknap County’s Citizens Council Executive Director Alan Robichaud, Judge Willard Martin, NHCTF Executive Director Karen Carpenter and parent leader Tammy Emery will share the ways communities can support children and families.

Coming in October...

Fall Plenary Forum with Dr. Deborah Daro, Associate Professor and Research Fellow at the Chapin Hall Center for Children at the University of Chicago. Dr. Daro will focus on “*Moving Prevention Forward: Past Lessons, Future Promise.*”

Parenting Literacy Project *continued from pg. 1*

the nationally acclaimed “*I Am Your Child*” parenting DVD series produced by Rob Reiner, parenting information brochures from area community and statewide resources such as Family Support NH, Family Resource Connection at the NH State Library and an areas family resource center/family support program. This Spring, 48 libraries representing about half of NH’s population will receive this information. The cost per library is \$500 and additional sponsors are needed so that every community, every family and every child can have access to this important information. ☺