



PREVENTION PROGRESS

Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

June 2014

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THE GRANT APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS NOW UNDER WAY

The Department released the Request for Proposal (RFP) and Grant Application on April 1st and training was provided on April 7th for potential applicants who wanted to apply for funding. The deadline to submit a Grant Application was May 16th at 5:00 p.m. and the Department received 120 applications for funding.

The funds will be awarded to eligible entities through a three-layered, competitive grant application review process using the Score Sheet provided in the RFP. The first review began with staff and will be followed by a local review from volunteers across the state. The final review will be conducted by the Department's Board in June and award notifications will be sent out prior to July 1st along with information regarding registration for Grantee Training. If funded, grantees will be required to attend Grantee Training on August 4-5th at the Alabama 4-H Youth Development Center at Lay Lake in Columbiana.



On April 16th, Governor Bentley signed a Proclamation designating April as Child Abuse Prevention month.

Message from the Executive Director

Recently I had the honor and privilege of attending two national conferences focusing on the prevention of child abuse and neglect. The Children's Bureau hosted their 19th conference on Child Abuse and Neglect April 30 through May 2. Prior to this conference beginning, Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) grantees met for two days for their annual meeting. Jessica Jackson, Victor Koriko, and I attended the meeting representing our agency. "Making Meaningful Connections" was the conference theme which was especially relevant as the meeting offered much time for networking, sharing, and getting acquainted with peers from other states. "Making Meaningful Connections" is also the title of Department of Health & Human Services, Children's Bureau, 2014 Prevention Resource Guide. This annual guide offers many practical guides and resources and was distributed during our RFP training in April. Additional copies will be distributed during our annual grantee training in August.

Highlights of the Child Abuse and Neglect Conference included the opening plenary session with Deb Daro and Tom Birch reviewing 40 years of CAPTA (Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act) with an emphasis on the research and practice areas of success. Another plenary session that was very compelling showcased overcoming early childhood adversity. Larry Adelman presented about the upcoming release of "The Raising of America: Early Childhood and the Future of Our Nation", a video series that will be shown on PBS in the fall. Also focused at the conference was the continued work of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention around their Essentials for Childhood Initiative.

Prevent Child Abuse America's annual conference was held in mid-May and featured three informative plenary sessions. Tracy Plummer and I represented our agency, which also serves as the Alabama chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America. We heard from experts in the fields of neuroscience and the adverse effects of early childhood experiences of child abuse and neglect which included Dr. Bruce Perry and Robin Karr Morse. We also heard from Dr. David Willis, head of the Division of Home Visiting and Early Childhood Systems that manages the MIECHV grants from HHS. Dr. Willis gave an enlightening update from the federal perspective on the importance of early home visiting and the positive outcomes for participating children and families. Dr. Harvey Karp presented on both the happy baby strategies for which he is known and his recent work with toddlers. There were numerous break-out sessions with the ones dealing with CDC's work with states on building collective impact most engaging. A day and a half was added to the end of the conference for state executive directors' meeting where we discussed logo changes, marketing, and key success stories from six states.

Both conferences offered chances to mix and mingle with key leaders across the country and the opportunities to learn cutting-edge successful strategies to reduce and prevent child maltreatment. Professional development opportunities provide useful resources and information that can strengthen our programs.

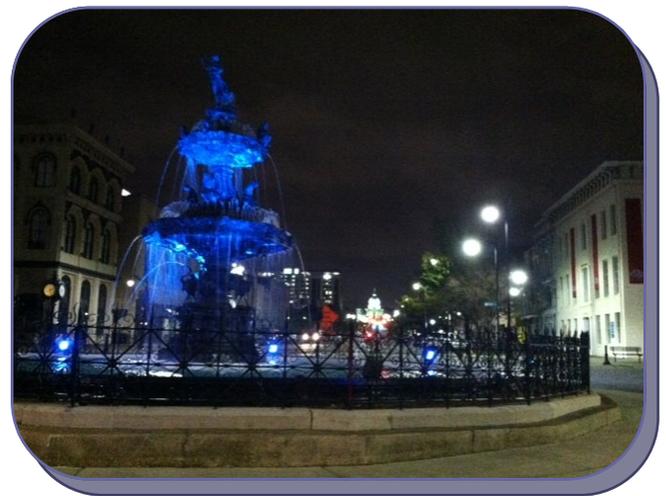
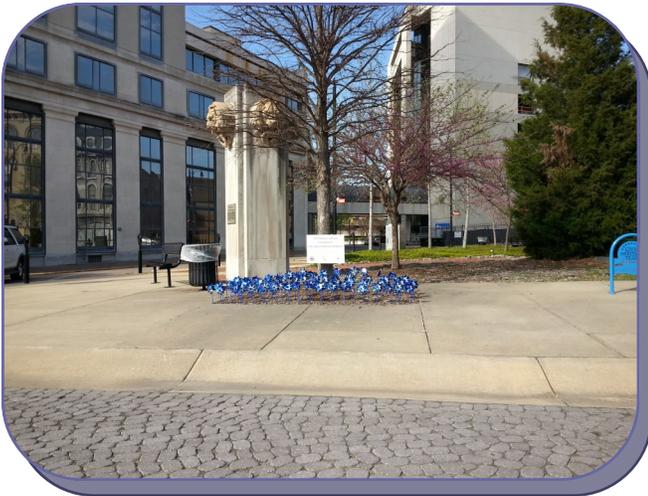
Shelley E. Longshore



“PAINT THE TOWN BLUE” CAMPAIGN

This year for Child Abuse Prevention Month, the Department focused on raising awareness through our “Paint the Town Blue” campaign. April activities included:

- ◆ Lighting the Capitol blue
- ◆ Lighting the downtown fountain blue
- ◆ Lighting RSA buildings around the state blue
- ◆ Decorating the downtown area with blue ribbons and pinwheel gardens
- ◆ Governor Signed Proclamation designating April as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention month.



RFP Training Participants



The Department released the Department’s Request for Proposal (RFP) and Grant Application on April 1st. RFP training was held on April 7th at the Gordon Persons Building located in Montgomery. Approximately 100 people attended the session and for those who couldn’t attend, the presentation and Q & A was posted on the website.

Grantees Raise Awareness for Child Abuse Prevention

Throughout the month of April, our Grantees hosted numerous events in their counties to raise awareness for Child Abuse Prevention.



Blue ribbons promote child abuse prevention

By PEGGY BLACKBURN
Managing Editor

Each year April is recognized as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the United States and in Alabama. The Elmore County Extension Office and the Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention – the Children's Trust Fund – invites communities to take action for children by encouraging businesses, schools and individuals to display blue ribbons on buildings, doors and mailboxes

throughout the month. The blue ribbon is the international sign for child abuse prevention and serves as a reminder that everyone has a responsibility to help keep children safe. Locally a variety of activities are planned for Child Abuse Prevention Month. • April 1-30 – the water in the Wetumpka Civic Center fountain will be tinted blue. • April 11 – There will be a balloon release at Wetumpka Elementary School at 1 p.m. sponsored

by the Elmore County Department of Human Resources. • April 15 – A Lunch and Learn is planned for 11:30 a.m. at the Wetumpka Pizza Hut. The lunch will include a check presentation by the Children's Trust Fund and special guest speaker Judge Patrick Pinkston. • April 17 – A proclamation ceremony will be held at 9:30 a.m. at the Elmore County Courthouse in downtown Wetumpka.



Programs Making a Difference

“An article was written in the paper yesterday and JJLC was mentioned. It took me back . . . In 2008-2009 that was my home. While there I never thought much of it, but I was given a second chance and you made that possible for me. I am living an awesome life with my now 6-year old son and you are very much the reason why. You were there to give me that extra push and really went the extra mile to make sure I stayed on track. I graduated ahead of my normal class and was able to attend college at only 17 years old. I am now a certified dental assistant. Being a single mom was the hardest obstacle I have ever faced. Without all of your help I would never be this successful . . . I wouldn't be the mother or woman I have grown to be. To me my education is golden and I will forever be grateful for all you have helped me accomplish. I wanted you to know I am not just a statistic. I really made it in life!!”

Message from Program Participant at Lawrence County's Judy Jester Learning Center (JJLC)



Cribs for Kids® is a partnership between the Department and IMPACT Family Counseling. A parent/caregiver who does not have a safe sleep environment for their baby to sleep can be provided a Pack n' Play by calling (334) 262-2951. The core purpose of Cribs for Kids® is to reduce infant deaths by providing an appropriate sleep environment through education and safe cribs. Any group participating in Cribs for Kids® must adhere to the American Academy of Pediatrics' Safe-Sleep Guidelines. Guidelines also specify:

1. The infant must be under one year of age.
2. If the participant is not part of a research study, a letter of request is required stating the need for a safe sleep environment for the infant. The letter must also include a copy of the infant's newborn identification (footprints).
3. Educational materials containing ways to reduce the risks of SIDS and accidental suffocation will be given with the crib; these materials will be supplied to assure that the safe-sleep message is uniform. The education materials adhere to the guidelines set forth by the American Academy of Pediatrics' safe-sleep guidelines.

CHECK PRESENTATIONS AROUND THE STATE

ACES Elmore



Lee County Grantees



Sylacauga Alliance for Family Enhancement



Talladega County Grantees



LOCAL AND BOARD REVIEW

On June 10th and 11th, local reviewers from across the state volunteered their time to read and score grant applications received for possible funding for the program year 2014-2015. This year, Local Review was held at RSA's Headquarters and hosted a wide variety of readers with many years of experience and knowledge. It was a huge success!

The last and final step of the process is our Board Review which is scheduled for June 25th and 26th. After Grant Applications are read and scored, they will make a final determination on which programs will be funded and the amount each will receive. The Board's decision is final and no reconsideration will be given.

Those applicants who have been selected for funding will receive notification prior to July 1st and will be given instructions on registration for the upcoming Grantee Training. Training will be held at the Alabama 4-H Youth Development Center at Lay Lake in Columbiana on August 4th and 5th. Because space will be limited, a list of hotels in the area will also be provided.

Good luck to all of you who applied for funding!

Child Abuse Prevention Activities Across the State



MISSION STATEMENT

The Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention secures resources to fund evidence-based community programs committed to the prevention of child maltreatment; we advocate for children and the strengthening of families.

Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board of Directors

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Rev. Clinton L. Johnson

District Two

Anita L. Archie, **Board Chair**

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Designee—Jamey Durham

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Colonel Hugh McCall

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Alabama

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We're on the Web

www.ctf.alabama.gov

Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect Since 1983

