

Bridge the Gap

Dedicated to
Preventing
Child Abuse &
Neglect for 25 Years

*...because all parents have the potential
to be great parents*



Grant Requests Double in Time of Need

This year, **CTF received more than \$350,000 in grant requests - nearly double our 2008 requests.** The economic challenges facing families require Family Support Centers to do more with far less. Budget cuts in Olympia include the Council on Children & Families, which will affect many of CTF's community-based partners. **We need your help to fund 2009 programs** that will serve parents and caregivers including: single-parents who want to learn how to best co-parent; Spanish- and Mandarin-speaking families who need support; and families in urban and rural communities who want to raise healthy children in homes free of abuse and neglect. Help us ensure that parents have the support they need. **Give to CTF in April 100% of your gift will go directly to programs that support Washington Families.**

Prevention Funding Cut When Families Need It Most

From 2005-2007, **over 7,000 Washington children were abused each year.** The Justice Department estimates the number of deaths nationwide caused by abuse and neglect exceeds 2,000 per year. In tough economic times, these numbers go up. In fact, **Seattle Children's and Harborview hospitals documented a nearly 400% increase in non-accidental head trauma cases in 2008.** (Source: FIGHT CRIME: Invest in Kids Washington)

Child abuse and neglect costs Washington more than \$886 million per year. A July 2008 Washington State Institute for Public Policy study estimated that we would receive **\$4.31 worth of benefit for every \$1 investment in prevention programs.**

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2009 Grant Requests

This year, communities from across Washington asked CTF to support prevention programs, they include:

Aberdeen—Bellingham—Cathlameth—Darrington—Everett—Kent—Langley—Lopez Island
Lynwood—Moses Lake—North Bend—Olympia—Port Angeles—Port Townsend—Puyallup
Seattle—SeaTac—Stanwood/Camano—Spanaway—Tacoma

New Leadership Builds on 25-Year History

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But despite clear evidence that prevention saves money and lives, **in tough economic times prevention is often the first thing to go.** Facing an unprecedented budget crisis, our historic partner, the Council on Children & Families (CCF) is threatened with funding cuts that would dismantle prevention programs throughout the state.

We need your help to bridge the funding gap this year. Please take a stand for children and families today and give to CTF in April.

For more information about this legislative session, the effects on prevention programs, and how you can join us in advocating for children, visit our website at www.childrenstrust.org.

Preparing for 25 More Years!

Janet Miller and Bonnie Riach visualized a world where no child would suffer abuse and neglect because their parents lacked support. Their leadership and passion for family support fueled CTF's ability to lead the charge across Washington, supporting many of the State's most respected, evidence-based initiatives and innovative, community-based programs. This year, CTF celebrates 25 years of service to Washington families. To prepare for this benchmark, the Board of Directors implemented a multi-year strategic plan aimed at providing even greater funding and support to families across Washington. **Thanks to the generosity of Jim Youngren, Janet's brother, CTF received the funds necessary to create the infrastructure we need to carry on Janet's work and accomplish the board's ambitious goals and enables CTF to apply 100% of all funds raised in April to 2009 family support grants.**

Welcoming New Staff

This year, CTF welcomed two new staff. **Executive Director Tracy Sarich, J.D.**, who brings more than 10 years of business development, fundraising and strategic leadership experience to CTF. And **Director of Development Kim Burgess**, who will focus on corporate and institutional giving and community engagement. Together they will put into motion the vision of generations of CTF Board Members and Alumni.

Our Strategic Goals

- **Increase & stabilize funding** to community based, family support programs
- **Educate** the public about the role of Family Support Centers in preventing abuse & neglect
- **Advocate** for public policies that support children and strengthen families
- **Leverage strategic partnerships & efficient programs** in order to maximize CTF resources

In Hard Times, Every Dollar Counts

Strong Stewardship—Innovative Programming

91¢ of every dollar spent in 2008 went directly to family support programs. CTF wants every dollar to count this year, too. That's why we are dedicating all gifts received in April to 2009 grants.

In 2009, CTF will focus on expanding family support funding and leadership on the issues of child abuse and neglect prevention programs at the state and federal level and launching a state-wide network for family support

Become part of our online community and receive up to the minute information about our innovative programming and strong stewardship.

- **Sign up for our eNewsletter** at www.childrenstrust.org
- **Join our Facebook Cause** "Stand Up Against Child Abuse & Neglect"