



"Together we CAN stop child abuse and neglect"



# what's inside...

- President's Point of View
- **3** Upcoming Event
- Community Partners
- **5** Event Highlights
- 6 Program Highlights: CAC
- Program Highlights: CASA
- R Program Highlights: CAPE
- Volunteer Opportunities
- 1 Make An Impact



"We are building **COMMUNITIES**where children are
free from abuse and neglect."

# **Meeting the Needs**

# **New CAC in Arenac County**

The CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region's Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) received a *National Children's Alliance (NCA) Program Development Grant* to broaden services for children and families in Arenac County.

Located at the **Community United Methodist Church** in Standish, Michigan we are now able to provide Arenac County with the critical services needed for those children who have become victims of abuse and neglect. It has been difficult for families in need of forensic interviewing services to travel to Bay County where the nearest CAC is located due to the lack of transportation in the rural community. This new location will be convenient for the families as well as the professionals involved with cases in their community.

Community members, as well as **State Representative Joel Johnson**, helped to welcome the CAN Council to Arenac County at an Open House of the new CAC on Thursday, October 6th.



CAC Program Director, **Cynthia K. Morley**, said, "It is an honor for the CAN Council CAC program to receive the NCA Development Grant. There were just two grants awarded for Michigan and with this opportunity, we are able to offer critical services for our littlest victims and their families in Arenac County. We would like to thank the entire community for welcoming us enthusiastically!"



Together we CAN stop child abuse and neglect.

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Carrie Strohkirch **CASA Supervisor** 

CAN Council 1311 N. Michigan Avenue Saginaw, MI 48602 (989) 752-7226 FAX: (989) 752-2777

CAN Council Nathan Weidner Center 715 N. Euclid Avenue Bay City, MI 48706 (989) 671-1345 FAX: (989) 671-2365

#### www.cancouncil.org

CAN Talk is a quarterly publication of the CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region and is distributed as a complimentary service to supporters and other professionals of Bay and Saginaw counties.

#### PRESIDENT'S POINT OF VIEW

"The world is a dangerous place to live; not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don't do anything about it. " Albert Einstein

With the falling leaves and fabulous apple season upon us, it is the time when many parts of our lives gear up, get busy and we simply don't have time. It is also a time when we can make the decision to do something about it. In this quote, which honors all of our volunteers,



staff and donors, we are called to action! This newsletter is all about the action that we need you to take in order to move our mission forward each and every day. Here are just a few highlights:

- Call (Bay: (989) 671-1345 or Saginaw: (989) 752-7226) to sign up for volunteer orientation and share your talents to improve the lives of our children.
- Take a look at our website and learn more about being a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) and be a voice for our children who are in the system due to abuse and/or neglect.
- Read more about the exciting National CASA grant we've received to add special training and assistance for our children between 14 and 21. These children need special assistance to prepare to leave the foster care system such as finding a job, applying to college, and learning to do laundry, just to name a few. You can receive the training needed to be that caring adult for a child in Saginaw or Bay County!
- Consider joining one of our active committees to bring about change in our community and state around child abuse and neglect—from Public Awareness and Advocacy to Fund Development—we just can't do it without you!
- Invite us to speak to your group, organization, business, or church about one of our prevention programs such as Darkness to Light and Mandated Reporting so that you can protect the children in your family and community!

After reading this, please don't be "one of the people who don't do anything about it"—we need you! I look forward to talking with you or connecting you with one of our CAN Council Team!

With the best interest of children in mind,

Suzanne Greenberg President/CEO







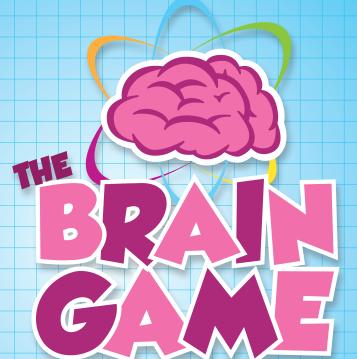




Full Member of the National Children's Alliance Accredited Member of the National CASA Association Designated Council for the Children's Trust Fund (CTF) and United Way of Bay & Saginaw Counties Team of 8

Half team

Individual \$30



Preventing child abuse is far from trivial

TUESDAY OCTOBER 25 BAYARIAN INN LODGE Frankenmuth, MI

6 p.m. dinner

Game starts at 7 p.m.

10 p.m

For more information or to register, visit cancouncil.org/event-registration or call Delores Gale at (989) 752-7226.



Sponsorship opportunities available

# **Back-to-School Success**

On Wednesday, August 31st, 40 students received backpacks to assist in their success this school year. A special thanks to Horizons Conference Center for donating a portion of the items given in addition to the backpacks.





Thank you to the TCWA Local 4108 Community Service Committee for providing 30 CASA children with much needed back-to-school items including a complete outfit and a backpack full of school supplies.

As you shop on Amazon this holiday season, log on using smile.amazon.com and a portion of your sale will be donated to the Child Abuse and Neglect Council Great Lakes Bay Region.



# **September is Safe Sleep Awareness Month**

On Tuesday, September 13th, the CAN Council partnered with **Covenant HealthCare** to provide parents with wearable sleep sacks in exchange for their crib bumper pads. Research has shown that newborns can suffocate if their face is too close to the non-breathable material of a crib bumper pad; a sleep sack (or wearable blanket) is a viable option in terms of preventing your little one from getting his or her limbs stuck in the crib's slats.



# **Ducky Derby & Family Fun Fest**

The sun emerged from the rain clouds for a short time on Saturday, August 27th to provide a great day for the CAN Council's annual *Ducky Derby & Family Fun Fest*. Nearly 1,400 plastic, yellow ducks raced to the finish line on the Kawkawlin River. The top 14 contestants waddled away with various prizes including such things as VISA gift cards and admission passes to local organizations.

The first place winner, **Jessica Dorman**, was awarded \$1,000. A special thanks to Jessica for giving back a portion of her winnings to the CAN Council to help further protect children throughout the community. **Sandy Evans** took home the second-place cash prize of \$500.

Thank you to Castaway's Bar & Grill for hosting this event and the McDonald DUWK Boat for providing tours of their amphibious boat. Partner agencies including AAA, Bay County Health Department, Bay County Library System, Bay County Prevention Network, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Great Lakes Bay Region, COPOCO Community Credit Union, Great Start to Quality Resource Center, Immanuel Lutheran School, List Psychological Services, Neighborhood Resource Center, The Home Depot, and **Wellspring Lutheran Services** provided fun festivities for children.

The Derby couldn't have been possible without the ongoing support of AAA, Bay & Saginaw Health Plans, Bay City Kiwanis Club, Bay City Noon Optimist Club, and York Repair, Inc. who generously sponsored the event.

We look forward to seeing you all again next year!





"Like" the **CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region** on Facebook!

### **CAC Welcomes CMU Medical Students Central Michigan University—College of** Medicine located at Covenant Health has partnered with the CAN Council to bring the Comprehensive Community Clerkship (CCC) to their Children's Advocacy Center (CAC). The CAN Council Saginaw County headquarters will serve as a location for the medical student's required community-based Specialty Sessions.

The CCC is training tomorrow's physicians in the communities that they serve, and by observing the operations at the CAN Council, these future physicians will have a better understanding of the CAC's role.



# **Interns Becoming Professionals**

Field instruction is a critical part for Saginaw Valley State University's Social Work Program. Senioryear students are required to spend 15-16 hours per week with professional social work supervision in an approved social service agency. Students apply the skills and knowledge learned in classroom-based courses to actual practice with assigned client systems. The CAN Council Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) is fortunate to have four engaging interns this year. Please help welcome Johnnesha Grose, Kelsey Slagle, Shannon Bodette, and Jennifer Jarman.

During their internship, the students will be assisting CAC staff with the process of offering support and comfort to child victims and their non-offending caregivers when they visit the CAN Council to be interviewed and examined after being sexually or physically abused, or if they had witnessed violence. They will learn the tasks of case management, assist in intervention efforts, and will serve as advocates alongside professionals to help eradicate child abuse and neglect.



Kroger is committed to helping the community grow and prosper. Kroger Community Rewards makes fundraising easy, just shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card!

Sign up today! KrogerCommunityRewards.com; Enter NPO #38461.

# CASA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Be someone a child can count on.

Start the application process to become a CASA for Bay or Saginaw County children.

Call the CASA Team today:

Bay County: (989) 671-1345 Saginaw County: (989) 752-7226

# TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT, PLEASE CALL:

Children's Protective Services

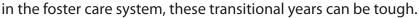
(855) 444-3911

Para reportar cualquier sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, llame al CPS (855) 444-3911.

# Welcome, Carrie Strohkirch

The CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region's Fostering Futures program welcomes new CASA Supervisor, Carrie Strohkirch, to the staff. Carrie will be supervising the CASA's who represent a unique group of foster children.

Fostering Futures is geared toward older youth, those that will be aging out of the foster care system or that will be emancipated. This program will provide CASA volunteers with specialized training in assisting those transitioning into adulthood. For many adolescents, especially those



With the support of the **National CASA Association's Youth Advocacy Sub-Grant**, the CAN Council's CASA Program will be able to help youth successfully navigate through this critical period in their lives.





On Saturday, January 14th, the CAN Council will highlight one child and one adult from the community who demonstrate outstanding commitment to protecting children during the Saginaw Spirit Game.

You and your children are encouraged to dress in superhero costumes to join us!

Sponsorship opportunities available.
Call Delores Gale at (989) 752-7226 for more information.

#### ■ PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: CAPE

# **Self-Care for Better Parenting**

Have you ever heard the saying, "if an airplane is going down, you need to put the oxygen mask on yourself before your child?" As hard as that may be for most parents, it's true. In order to be the best parent possible, we have to be stable, well, and available mentally and physically. Below are a few tips from the **National Exchange Club on Self-Care**:

#### Find time for yourself.

- Nap when your baby is napping.
- Take 10 minutes after your child falls asleep at night to do something that's important to you.
- Teach your child a favorite hobby of yours.

#### Find time to laugh with your child.

- Watch a funny movie together.
- Tell silly jokes or stories.

Talk with a friend on the phone.

Read a chapter of your favorite book.

Remember to exercise. Try it with your child!

Squeeze in 10 minutes for a cup of tea.

Allow yourself to go to bed 20 minutes early.

Allow someone to watch your child when possible and get away.

# **Self-Care & Make-Up Tip Workshops**

The CAN Council is doing their part and will be hosting a Self-Care & *Make-Up Tip Workshop* for moms. It's absolutely free, but space is limited. Be sure to RSVP today!

# **CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region—Saginaw County**

1311 N. Michigan Avenue | Saginaw, MI 48602 Monday, October 24th | 5:00 - 6:30pm RSVP: (989) 752-7226

#### **CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region—Bay County**

715 N. Euclid Avenue | Bay City, MI 48706 Wednesday, October 26th | 5:00 - 6:30pm RSVP: (989) 671-1345

# **CAN-DO VOLUNTEER** HIGHLIGHT



**Rochelle Gilmer** started volunteering over a year ago through the **AmeriCorps** program. She was assigned to help as a program assistant with the CAN Council's CAPE program, focusing on the Safe Baby Program.

During Rochelle's time volunteering with CAN, she has helped with many community outreach events, spreading the word of CAN Council programs and services throughout the community.

Rochelle's enthusiasm and commitment to our CAPE programs, along with her hard work, sparkling personality, and upbeat spirit, has left a lasting impact on the CAN Council staff and visitors. She continues to put smiles on the faces of everyone she encounters, and we are proud to have Rochelle as part of our CAN Council team.



Together we CAN stop child abuse and neglect.

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** Fall & Winter 2016

Help protect our children and strengthen families! The CAN Council depends on your volunteer support to build communities where children are free from abuse and neglect. Please consider representing the CAN Council at the following events:

Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2016

Event: CAN Council's The Brain Game

Location: Bavarian Inn Lodge, Frankenmuth Help: Various positions available

Time: 5:30pm - 9:30pm; shifts available



Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2016

**Event: Project Connect - Bay County** Continuum of Care

Location: Bay County Community Center Help: Handout CAN Council information Time: 10am - 1pm; shifts available

Date: Thursday, November 3, 2016 **Event: Safe Journey Reveal** 

Location: Lincoln Center, 820 S. Lincoln, Bay City

Help: Handout CAN Council Information Time: 6:30pm - 8pm; shifts available



Dates: Friday, November 18, 2016 Thursday, December 29, 2016

**Event: Saginaw Spirit Hockey Night** 

Location: The Dow Event Center, Saginaw

Help: Selling 50/50 tickets Time: 5:30pm - 9pm

#### Join Our Committees

We are looking for volunteers to join some of our exciting Fundraising Committees:

- Mardi Gras Auction
- Wines Around the World



Sign-up now! To participate in any of these events, please contact Jason L. Appleby, Volunteer Coordinator, at (989) 752-7226 or jappleby@cancouncil.org. Thank you for your commitment!

#### MAKE AN IMPACT

#### **Donors July through October 2016**

#### **Advocates**

Frankenmuth Jaycees GM Powertrain – General Motors Foundation

**Supporters** 

Bay City's Tall Ship Celebration Nexteer Automotive's Golf Outing Proceeds Saginaw Metal Castings Operations

#### **Patrons**

AT&T Employee Giving Anonymous Bill Agresta Art Van Charity Challenge Bonus Buffalo Wild Wings – Saginaw Mary Lou Case Garrett Gersenhaver Gypsy Goddess Festival Géné Hamilton Ann Law Mercantile Bank of Michigan's Jean Day Nikki's Daycare Lemonade Stand Mandi Martin Sylvester's Pampered **Chef Party** Wildfire Credit Union's Jean Day

#### **Friends**

AmazonSmile Patricia Arvilla Taylor Arvilla Pam Cole **Duperon Corporation's Family** Fun Day Karen Frahm Graczyk-Dijak Financial Group Alan Greenberg Lori Hodo Linda Howard Marie Koch Linda Matuszak Sharril McNally Elizabeth Raabe Janice Schneider Nancy Schneider Gail Schnurstein

#### Memorials

Mildred Crower
Janet Foley-Deneen
Gary Hornfeld
Sandra Klonoski
Mary Sieggreen
Tom & Rosemarie Sikorski
D.J. & C.A. Skolnik
Beverly Yanca
In Memory of Karen Petersen

# **Holiday Giving**

Our program successes simply wouldn't be possible without you! From our CAC, which provides a safe place for all children who enter through our doors; to the CASA program, which gives children a voice and friend; and finally the CAPE programs, that help parents, grandparents, future parents, and community members learn different aspects of child abuse prevention through parenting support and education; these programs change lives daily.



Please consider supporting the CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region this holiday season. Together, we CAN stop child abuse and neglect. Visit: cancouncil.org/contribute for more information.

# **Give Now. Give Local.**Support your Bay & Saginaw County's United Way today.





Help support local literacy and educational programs Vote Vera Harrison for
Saginaw's Most Stylish!