

CONNECTING FOR KIDS

Summer 2005

Issue 3, Vol. 7

Stay informed - Connecting for Kids newsletter available through e-mail

The Child Abuse Prevention Fund's Connecting for Kids newsletter will be changing to an e-newsletter in October. The newsletter will only be available in print until spring of 2006.

In order to continue receiving this valuable resource, add your name to the distribution list by completing and mailing the enclosed postcard or e-mail capfund@chw.org with "Subscribe" in the subject line and place your name and organization in the message.

Apply for a grant from the Child Abuse Prevention Fund – letters of intent are due Nov. 2

Letters of intent from agencies applying for the Child Abuse Prevention Fund's 2006-07 funding cycle are due by **4 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2005**. Agencies that meet funding criteria will be contacted by Thursday, Nov. 10, 2005, and asked to submit a proposal. Proposals must be submitted by **4 p.m., Friday, Dec. 9, 2005**. Funds will be awarded in early April, 2006.

The fund, a special initiative of Children's Hospital and Health System, awards grants to agencies throughout Wisconsin that offer primary prevention programs and are committed to increasing the number of children who are raised in healthy, secure and nurturing environments. We define primary prevention as "creating conditions and personal attributes that promote the well-being of children and families *before* child abuse is suspected."

All funding applications are reviewed by a volunteer Grants Review Committee. This committee is comprised of professionals who work in government, law, education, social service and other fields related to child abuse. The committee recommends for funding those programs with the greatest potential to make an impact on reducing incidents of child abuse to receive financial support.

For more information, visit www.capfund.org and click on Apply for Funding. If you have any questions or are interested in discussing your program ideas with the Child Abuse Prevention Fund prior to submitting a letter of intent, please call (414) 266-6300 or e-mail capfund@chw.org.

Since 1988, the organization has distributed more than \$6.7 million to support community-based prevention initiatives throughout Wisconsin.

Programs that work: Ozaukee Family Services

The Internet can be an excellent tool for children to communicate with friends, get homework assistance and learn new things. It is the largest collection of information in the world, and children can access virtually anything on the Internet. Most children who use the Internet have positive experiences, but children can be vulnerable targets for exploitation, crime and harassment.

According to statistics from the U.S. Department of Justice, one in five children who use the Internet receive unwanted sexual solicitations online. In addition, approximately 70 percent of unwanted solicitations to children occur while a child is home using a computer. Ozaukee Family Services was awarded a grant from the Child Abuse Prevention Fund to develop and implement an Internet safety program for parents and school-aged children.

Ozaukee Family Services surveyed children enrolled in Ozaukee County's five school districts. The survey results indicated that most children start using the Internet in second grade. By fifth grade, students are regularly using the Internet for entertainment and communication with their friends. In fact, some children surveyed even indicated that they met strangers in chat rooms.

"The Internet provides unprecedented access to children," said Cheri Farnsworth, Ozaukee Family

Services executive director. "Although it is impossible to avoid all inappropriate material on the Internet, we are working to teach parents and children basic safety information and educate parents on how to monitor Internet use."

Working with law enforcement and school officials, the organization is developing and implementing a classroom education program for children. The programs are coordinated in the five school districts in Ozaukee County. In addition, evening presentations will be available for parents to help them understand why children are at risk on the Internet and how to keep them safe.

Internet safety education programs for parents and children will begin this fall and continue throughout the school year. The program's planning committee includes Ozaukee Family Services staff; elementary, middle and high school students; parents; school professionals; law enforcement; other health and human service agencies and community members.

Ozaukee Family Service's mission is to improve lives and help families succeed. The organization offers parent education and support, affordable counseling, senior services and child abuse prevention education.

Parent resources available from the Child Abuse Prevention Fund

The Child Abuse Prevention Fund publishes a wide range of parent resource materials. These materials are available free of charge for use in your primary prevention program.

For a list of materials, visit our Web site at www.capfund.org and click on the Parent Resources button on the left. For more information, e-mail jzahn@chw.org or call (414) 266-6300.

Grantseeker's Corner

Writing grants...and a whole lot more

By Jeremy Miner

**Director, Government Relations and Sponsored Programs
St. Norbert College, DePere, Wis.**

Being a grant writer often means writing a lot more than just grant proposals. A whole series of written documents can lead up to and follow the actual grant proposal. Some documents are short, informal communications and others are long, formal reports. Some are for audiences internal to your organization and others are for external groups.

Here is a sampling of documents that were developed to support a successful grant initiative:

- A memo that announced the availability of the Request For Proposal to colleagues.
- An e-mail that confirmed the date, time and location of a meeting to discuss the RFP.
- Minutes from the meeting, which document responsibilities for project development.
- A list of preproposal contact questions for program officers, past grant winners and reviewers.
- An e-mail to colleagues that summarized responses to preproposal contact questions.
- PowerPoint slides to share with potential community collaborators.
- A preliminary draft of the grant proposal.
- Sample letters of support and commitment for community collaborators.
- The final grant proposal.
- A thank you note to the sponsor after the grant award notification was received.
- An e-mail to the program officer requesting verbatim reviewer comments.
- An e-mail that announced the grant award to colleagues and community collaborators.
- A press release to local media that announced the grant award.
- A Web page that publicizes the grant program and enrolls participants.
- An article for an organizational newsletter that encouraged alumni participation.
- An amendment to an institutional policy for tracking and reporting in-kind contributions.
- A six-month progress report to the program officer.
- A final technical and financial report to the program officer.
- An executive summary of project outcomes for an organizational annual report.
- A journal article of major project results submitted to a professional association.
- A poster display of key project findings presented at a regional conference.
- A follow-up note to the sponsor thanking them again for their initial investment and indicating that sustainability funds were secured from another source.

Writing the grant proposal is just one part in the larger process of stewardship—maintaining the internal and external relationships necessary to develop and administer projects that can attract, secure and retain extramural funding.

© Jeremy T. Miner, 2005. Grantseeker's Corner is a column in Connecting for Kids, a publication of the Child Abuse Prevention Fund. Grantseeker's Corner is intended to inform, inspire, motivate and otherwise help sustain your grant seeking activities. To read past Grantseeker's Corner articles written by Jeremy Miner, visit www.capfund.org and click on the Professional Resources button on the left.

Funding sources

GrantSmart is an online tax return database for non-profit organizations. This database currently contains 499,260 tax returns filed by 96,717 private foundations and charitable trusts.

GrantSmart is a non-profit organization and its purpose is to facilitate communication between grantmakers and grantseekers by making public records filed by grantmakers available for public view. Unlike individual or corporate tax returns, Federal tax returns filed by non-profit organizations such as private foundations and charitable trusts are public records.

For more information, visit www.GrantSmart.org.

Announcements

KEEP KIDS SAFE awareness wristbands available

The Child Abuse Prevention Fund, Children's Trust Fund and Prevent Child Abuse Wisconsin have developed child abuse prevention awareness wristbands. The silicone wristbands are bright blue and debossed with the words "KEEP KIDS SAFE." They were created as part of the 2005 Blue Ribbons for Kids campaign. We want everyone to wear blue - a blue ribbon or wristband - because we all have a job to keep kids safe.

We are offering the wristbands to prevention organizations to distribute as you would the blue ribbon pin or to use as a fund-raiser. Wristbands are available in quantities of 50 for \$40. For more information, e-mail blueribbon@chw.org.

Professional development portfolios available for direct service staff and supervisors working in family resource and support programs



The Wisconsin Children's Trust Fund has developed core competencies in eight areas of essential knowledge and skills for home visitors, parent educators and other professionals who work with families. A second set of competencies addresses skills needed for managers and supervisors in the family support field.

Core competency portfolios are available for \$10 each from Children's Trust Fund. For more information, visit <http://wctf.state.wi.us> or call (608) 266-6871.

Help parents polish their parenting skills

Wisconsin parents can receive a free Positive Parenting Kit from the Wisconsin Children's Trust Fund by calling toll free (866) 640-3936. The kits contain information on positive parenting, sexual abuse prevention, fathering, shaken baby syndrome and other important topics. Kits also include stickers, growth charts and additional materials.

Upcoming conferences

Autism Society of Wisconsin presents: Meeting the Challenges of Challenging Behaviors

Oct. 5
Holiday Inn
Mosinee, Wis.
Cost: \$90
Phone: (920) 553-0278
Web site: <http://www.asw4autism.org/>

Raising a Happy and Semi-Civilized Toddler

Presented by Paula Spencer, best-selling author and award-winning journalist
Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.
Madison Marriott West
Middleton, Wis.
Cost: Free
Phone (800) 783-9322
Web site: www.wecanaeyc.org

Wisconsin Early Childhood Education and Care Conference

Oct. 7-8
The Marriott Madison West
Middleton, Wis.
Cost: \$165
Phone: (800) 783-9322
Web site: <http://www.wecanaeyc.org>

Association for Professional Researchers for Advancement presents: Prospect Strategy: What it is, Why it's Important, and How to Make it Happen

Oct. 28
Beloit College
Beloit, Wis.
Cost: Free
Web site: <http://www.aprahome.org/chapters/wisconsin.html>

Zero to Three 20th National Training Institute

Nov. 4-6
Washington Hilton
Washington, DC
Cost: \$445
Phone: (202) 638-1144
Web site: <http://www.zerotothree.org>

Save the date for the following conferences:

Fulfilling the Promise Conference

March 14-15, 2006
Radisson Paper Valley Hotel and Conference
Center
Appleton, Wis.

Together for Children – 19th Annual Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

April 5-7, 2006
Stevens Point, Wis.