

**CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND GRANTEES**  
**November 1, 2007 – October 31, 2010**  
**Round 18**

1. **Allegheny Intermediate Unit**  
**475 East Waterfront Drive**  
**Homestead, PA 15120**  
**(412) 394-5962**  
**Allegheny County – Region 3**  
**\$150,000**

The Allegheny Intermediate Unit's Community Education Child Abuse Prevention Project will promote a three-prong approach in dealing with child abuse prevention. The first component will consist of a train-the-trainer model focused around the *Best Behavior* book series. This program will identify early childhood educators who will use the *Best Behavior* book series in home visits as well as in a classroom setting to indirectly educate children and parents about child abuse and neglect issues. The second component includes working with the Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children (PAEYC) to develop and deliver regional trainings for early childhood providers in the selected service areas. This will be done on a yearly basis and will focus on the standards set by Keystone STARS. The final component will consist of working collaboratively with existing child abuse prevention programs to expand their capacity to reach families and community partners in identified communities in Allegheny County. It will provide families and community agencies opportunities to network and educate each other in regards to services and needs of the community.

2. **Beginnings, Inc.**  
**111 Market Street**  
**Johnstown, PA 15901**  
**(814) 539-1919**  
**Cambria County – Region 4**  
**\$150,000**

Beginnings, Inc. will employ three strategies to address child abuse and neglect in Cambria County. The first strategy will reinstate the Parents As Teachers (PAT) program, a research-based home visitation program aimed to enhance child development and promote early literacy and school achievement for families with children ages birth to five. The second strategy will offer an inclusive playgroup experience to children and their parents enrolled in PAT. The Parent and Child Together (PACT) playgroup gives toddlers the opportunity to freely move and explore in a safe, challenging and nurturing environment. The third strategy, in collaboration with community early care and education providers, utilizes the following approaches:

- provide training experiences for early intervention and early literacy staff on building protective factors and promoting resiliency within families;
- partner with Professional Family Care Services, Inc. in the delivery of Family Group Decision Making to families in the Greater Johnstown School District;
- educate students majoring in early childhood education at Pennsylvania Highlands Community College, through coursework and a service learning component, to help the families with whom they will work become skillful in building family and community relationships; and

- continue to build the partnership which has been established with Cambria County Head Start, a Keystone Star Level Four program, to effectively facilitate continuity of services.

**3. Caring People Alliance**  
**1819 JFK Blvd., Suite 220**  
**Philadelphia, PA 19148**  
**(215) 271-1267**  
**Philadelphia – Region 7**  
**\$150,000**

Caring People Alliance will implement three methods of service delivery to early care and education providers within the Southeast Regional Key service area, including professional development, technical assistance and coaching, and relationship-based practice with families. In Phase One, a total of 50 early care and education programs will be identified to participate in a six-hour professional development opportunity developed by Zero to Three entitled *Building Collaborative Relationships with Families*, which is the first module in a primary prevention curriculum developed by Zero to Three called *Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect: Parent-Provider Partnerships in Child Care (PCAN)*. This curriculum will be offered by trained individuals as a two-part series to enrolled programs, and all staff will be required to participate. In Phase Two, the Southeast Regional Key, in partnership with West Chester University, will offer a Master's Cohort in Philadelphia. Each of the 24 professionals currently enrolled will earn a Master's Degree from West Chester University with a focus on Infant and Toddler Development, Early Childhood Policy and Practice, and Family Systems. In Phase Three, a cadre of 40 instructors from across the Commonwealth will participate in Zero to Three's three-day train-the-trainer in the PCAN curriculum. The instructors trained on this curriculum will then train early childhood practitioners, families and other direct service providers on any or all of the then PCAN modules. A minimum of 15 of these instructors will be from the southeast region of Pennsylvania and will be from various sectors of the birth to five system.

**4. Community Action, Inc.**  
**105 Grace Way**  
**Punxsutawney, PA 15767-1209**  
**(814) 938-3302**  
**Jefferson County – Region 1**  
**\$29,501**

Community Action, Inc. will implement the Connect With Me Project in Clarion and Jefferson Counties. Connect With Me utilizes the parenting and preschool components of the Incredible Years curriculum, a proven model prevention program, to deliver parenting and child development activities to parents, child care practitioners and pre-school-age children. Through the use of the *Incredible Years* curriculum, which focuses on child and social/emotional development, parents, child care practitioners and children will be able to gain skills that support family unity and cohesiveness and build an environment to support school readiness and prevent abuse and neglect.

**5. Erie Homes for Children and Adults, Inc.**

**226 East 27<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Erie, PA 16504**

**(814) 454-1534**

**Erie County – Region 1**

**\$150,000**

Erie Homes for Children and Adults, Inc. will partner with the YMCA of Greater Erie to provide a two-part project called Family Engagement. The first part will instruct YMCA child education providers in identifying parents with disabilities who exhibit behavior that suggests potential for abuse and neglect of their children and provide techniques to improve communications with those parents. The second part will provide individualized one-on-one in-home support and referrals to parents who are identified by child care staff as needing further assistance. The program will target parents with mental illness, mental retardation and physical disabilities who may have other factors that contribute to a weakened family structure such as environmental and/or financial impoverishment, single parenthood, drug and alcohol addiction, homelessness, and involvement in a domestic or violent situation. The program will focus on the parents and child educators of pre-kindergarten children and its overall goal will be to reduce risk factors and strengthen protective factors in these families.

**6. Family Pathways**

**100 Brugh Avenue**

**Butler, PA 16001**

**(724) 284-9440**

**Butler County – Region 1**

**\$150,000**

Family Pathways will implement the Kids First Project in Butler County, which utilizes the Strengthening Families through Early Care and Education approach. The target population is children ages three to five and their families participating in an early care and education program in Butler County. Project implementation will begin with an overview of the Strengthening Families approach for providers and families in the community and followed by implementation of the Supporting Healthy Social and Emotional Development and Mental Health Consultation components. Kids First will promote children's healthy social and emotional development by:

- providing many opportunities for children to understand and appreciate differences;
- utilizing violence prevention curricula, such as *I Can Problem Solve* or *Second Step*, in the classroom;
- using and modeling for parents non-violent ways of disciplining children
- employing mental health consultants and/or play therapists to team with parents and teachers to help children with challenging behaviors;
- offering opportunities for parents to observe teachers interacting with their children through monitors or glass panels and time for parents to practice strategies the teachers have modeled;
- maintaining rules and standards for interactions between people, including parents and children, in the context of the early childhood center;
- offering children multiple avenues to express themselves, such as participating in theater, music and visual arts activities;

- modeling good conflict resolution processes within the center;
- building communication skills between parents and children across a range of issues, including emotions, challenging behavior, and resolving differences;
- training teachers in developing good emotional skills in themselves and in children; and
- sticking with the children in the program and their families and not expelling children with behavioral issues.

**7. Farrell Family Center**  
**1901 Memorial Drive**  
**Farrell, PA 16121**  
**(724) 509-1353**  
**Mercer County – Region 1**  
**\$150,000**

Farrell Family Center will implement the Making It Count! program in Mercer County for parents with children ages birth to five. Making It Count! will use the *Make Parenting a Pleasure* curriculum to teach parents needed skills to address factors linked to child abuse, neglect, and family dysfunction. The curriculum helps parents deal with stress, anger, social isolation, understanding normal child development, gaining positive discipline skills and communication skills, and developing feelings of competence in parenting. Early care and education providers will receive information on the program, as well as trainings on recognizing the signs of abuse and neglect and developing relationships with parents.

**8. H.A.N.D.S. of Wyoming County**  
**41 Philadelphia Ave.**  
**Tunkhannock, PA 18657**  
**(570) 836-2350**  
**Wyoming County – Region 2**  
**\$135,000**

H.A.N.D.S. of Wyoming County will implement the research-based Parents As Teachers (PAT) program using the *Born to Learn* curriculum for two- to five-year-olds and early childhood education practitioners in Wyoming County. PAT programs work with children and parents to provide the information, support and encouragement parents need to help their children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life. The core value of the PAT program is that parents are their children's first and most influential teachers. The four main goals of PAT are to increase parent knowledge of early childhood development thereby improving parenting practices; provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues; prevent child abuse and neglect; and increase children's school readiness and school success. This program will link to Child Development Council – Wyoming County site and Luzerne/Wyoming County Head Start – Tunkhannock and Mehoopany sites by offering curriculum support, parent support, trainings for staff and families utilizing their services and referrals. Early care and education staff and parents will participate in sessions entitled Soup, Sandwich and Support, a program designed to offer information on critical issues on child development presented by a PAT program educator.

**9. Institute for Safe Families**  
**3502 Scotts Lane**  
**Philadelphia, PA 19129**  
**(215) 843-2046**  
**Philadelphia – Region 7**  
**\$150,000**

The Institute for Safe Families will implement the Caregivers Helping to Affect and Nurture Children Early (CHANCE) program and curriculum to prevent child abuse and neglect through domestic violence awareness and intervention. The strategies that will be used in this project include: 1) provide early care and education staff in northwest Philadelphia with knowledge of the connections between domestic violence and child abuse, and the detrimental effects that exposure to domestic violence can have on young children; 2) provide early care and education staff with skills to help them identify possible domestic violence and to respond in ways that are most likely to contribute to child and family coping, safety and healing; 3) connect the early care and education organizations and staff with domestic violence, child trauma, batterers' treatment, and child abuse and prevention providers, so that they will have resources to which they can refer families and children; and 4) provide parents of children in the early care and education programs and in the community with information and training about the effects of domestic violence on children, and with information about resources so they will be better equipped to respond within their own families and/or in their communities.

**10. United Way of Bucks County**  
**413 Hood Blvd.**  
**Fairless Hills, PA 19030**  
**(215) 949-1660**  
**Philadelphia County – Region 7**  
**\$150,000**

United Way of Bucks County's will implement the Success by 6 Protecting Our Children Initiative to address child abuse and neglect prevention in Bucks County. A series of child abuse and neglect prevention trainings will be offered for early care and education providers and staff throughout the county, with a particular outreach emphasis on those enrolled in the Keystone STARS program. The trainings will be offered through Bucks County Community College and held at various campuses throughout the county. The trainings will be designed to 1) increase awareness about and knowledge of responsibilities and protocols involved in reporting child abuse and neglect; 2) increase skills and resources regarding observation of and response to signs of emerging or present difficulties in families and/or among children and appropriate supports for at-risk and/or affected children and families; and 3) increase connections and relationships between early care and education providers and local representatives of systems involved with child abuse and neglect cases. Training will also be available to parents in need of strengthening protective factors that help prevent child abuse and neglect using the *Incredible Years: Basic Parent Training Program – Early Childhood* curriculum, which focuses on strengthening parenting competencies and fostering parents' involvement in children's school experiences in order to promote children's academic and social competencies and reduce conduct problems.

**11. YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh**  
**330 Boulevard of the Allies**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15222**  
**(412) 243-2900**  
**Allegheny County – Region 3**  
**\$144,940**

The YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh will implement the Children Are People Too initiative in order to:

- expand the East End Community Collaborative to create linkages between the Homewood-Brushton YMCA's Family Support Center and the early childhood care and education providers in the Homewood and Lincoln Larimer communities of the East End;
- assist early care providers in building parent groups, linking parents to community agencies, educating parents in childhood development and recognizing the importance of developmental assets to children's growth and also assist both providers and parents with recognizing and responding to potential abuse through the Family Support Center model; and
- use the Parents As Teachers (PAT) curriculum, the Safe Start program, Praesidium's Abuse Risk Management program, and the Search Institute's Developmental Asset Model to educate early child care providers in methods to strengthen families, become familiar with tools to discuss and deal with abuse and methods to ensure that the risk for abuse at a facility is low.