



Empowering individuals and communities to stop child abuse and neglect *before it starts* through **AWARENESS, EDUCATION, SUPPORT** and **LEADERSHIP** for **ACTION**

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NEWS FROM MINNESOTA COMMUNITIES CARING FOR CHILDREN (MCCC)

Thank You to PATCH!

The Painters and Allied Trades for Children's Hope ([PATCH](#)) Foundation for Children was a Pinwheel Sponsor for our annual Stand for Children gala event this year. The members of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades for Local District Council 82 (DC 82) have generously supported MCCC child abuse prevention programs since 2012.

The members of DC 82 have a strong commitment to giving back to the communities that they work and live in and are particularly supportive of programs serving children. Since 2001 they have donated over \$1 million to local communities. For more information about the upcoming PATCH golf fundraiser at Majestic Oaks Golf Club on August 30th, call 651-224-5480.



Shelley Jacobson accepting a check for sponsorship of our 2016 STAND FOR CHILDREN Gala from DC 82 Business Manager, Terry Nelson.



Pinwheel Garden!

In preparation of the [Northeast Minneapolis Parade](#) that took place on June 21st, East Minneapolis Exchange Club members, including our very own Chris Pommerenke, Roget Hart, & Diane Loeffler (not pictured), planted a pinwheel garden on the southeast corner of Central and Lowry Avenues to raise awareness of child abuse prevention efforts!

Pinwheel gardens focus on community activities that support and celebrate families and public policies that focus on prevention efforts to make sure child abuse and neglect never occur.

Community Healing: Standing up for the Children!

Community members, educators, nonprofit and civic leaders, researchers, childcare providers, parents and grandparents and public health professionals gathered at the 8th Annual Community Empowerment Black Men Healing and African American Babies Coalition Healing Vessels Conference on June 23–24, 2016 to discuss the importance of centering children in community healing.



MCCC's Director of Parent Leadership and author of the Women of Color Opportunities Act (WOCOA), Rena Moran, spoke on the importance of the 1st 5 years of life, why prevention is important to keeping children safe in their homes, and the need for adults to advocate on behalf of children. She addressed the following questions:

- Why is it important to focus on Standing Up For Children?
- What kinds of opportunities would advance the African American community in this work and how do we make it inclusive of all citizens?
- What traits would it take to ensure we all have done the ground work other than policies?
- How would you engage youth in this work? Summer, part-time, training or internship positions?

THE FACES BEHIND THE WORK

Thank You To Our Past Board Members

As we begin our fiscal year 2017, MN Communities Caring for Children would like to recognize the outstanding contributions and services of Helene Slocum, Eileen Lay, and Jatinder Singh whose terms on the Board of Directors came to an end this past June. We would like to thank each of these outgoing board members for their commitment to building a solid and efficient organization as a means of helping to create healthy and happy childhoods. Their dedication to our mission, our programs, and the families we serve will continue to be felt as we move into the upcoming year.

Helene Slocum

Helene Slocum has been a driving force behind MCCC's development efforts since 2011. She has also generously hosted several fundraisers on behalf of MCCC, helping to raise awareness of the issue of child abuse prevention across her sphere of influence. In addition to her development efforts, Helene served as the Secretary of the board and played a key role in developing and effectively implementing MCCC's CEO hiring process in 2015. Although Helene is leaving the Board of Directors, we are fortunate that she will continue to serve on MCCC's Development Committee!

Eileen Lay

Eileen has been a dedicated member of MCCC's Board of Director for years. During her time on the board, Eileen served as Board Treasurer and the Chair of the Finance Committee. She brought over 30 years of strong managerial accounting

and finance experience to the board, plus extensive training and strength in areas of organizational development. We are grateful to Eileen for helping MCCC streamline our financial reporting processes and making reports more understandable.

Jatinder Singh

While J had a short tenure on the Board of Directors, he was instrumental in shaping MCCC's data and evaluation infrastructure. As a member of the board, J engaged with MCCC staff to learn about MCCC programs. He consistently asked probing questions that elicited new ways of thinking about the goals of MCCC programs and how we might measure the outcomes we hope to see as a result of our work. J's wife, Suzi, also supported our evaluation efforts by developing data tracking tools for the Parent Mentor program. The skill and fun attitude of both J and Suzi will be missed at MCCC, and we wish them the best as they get settled in California!

Welcoming Our Newest Board Members

At MCCC, we concern ourselves with how to ensure that those guiding our organizational strategy represent the different stakeholders in our network. We wish to incorporate these diverse voices and perspectives in every element of our planning process. With this in mind, we are excited and honored to introduce our three new members to the Board of Directors elected in May: Eric Paquette, Sara Knapp, and Tim Gunderson.

Eric Paquette

Eric Paquette is a finance professional, now working as an investment associate for a private investment firm. Eric has worked previously in accounting and investment banking with significant experience in mergers and acquisitions. His area of expertise include accounting, finance, and investment management. Eric holds a B.B.A. and Master's degree in accounting from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He is a CPA (inactive).

Sara Knapp

Sara Knapp is currently Vice President and Small Business Marketing Director at U.S. Bank. Her areas of focus include marketing and strategy, customer strategy & segmentation and market research. She holds a B.A. in Communications and Psychology from the University of Minnesota and a Master's Degree from Concordia University.

She currently is on the U.S. Bank Twin Cities Junior Achievement Council responsible for creating awareness and volunteerism around financial literacy and education for children. She also maintains involvement in Special Olympics of Minnesota. She has a passion for mentoring and working with families and children.

A lifelong resident of Minnesota (Twin Cities), Sara enjoys time at the lake with family and friends, sports, traveling, reading, music, working out and living life to the fullest.

Tim Gunderson

Tim Gunderson is a Partner at Tradition Wealth Management. Mr. Gunderson is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER® Practitioner certified by the Certified Financial

Planner Board of Standards in Denver, Colorado. He is a Registered General Securities Principal and holds the Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC), Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU) and Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) designations. He earned his BA from Gustavus Adolphus College. Running, swimming and golfing keep him busy when he isn't spending time at the family cabin. He lives with his wife, Nancy and son in Woodbury, MN.

MN Communities Caring for Children Board of Directors Membership

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Judy Malmon
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Elizabeth Melton
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Tim Gunderson
Traditional Wealth Management

David Thompson
Community Member

Introducing Jeannette Lewis, MCCC's Program Assistant

Jeannette Lewis was hired with a passion for change and the knowledge to create it. We at MCCC were drawn to her proven ability in serving communities and work in a diverse environments by acknowledging and honoring their complexities. She also uses the phrase "cool beans" a lot and thought that snow was fog when she first saw it as a child.

My name is Jeannette Lewis and I am the Program Assistant for the Parent Mentor Program, the Parent Leadership for Child Safety and Permanency (PLCSP) program, and the Circle of Parents program as of June 2016. I am originally from New Orleans, Louisiana, but moved when I was six years old and have lived in the Twin Cities for over 20 years. I have over of 10 years of experience as an Administrative Assistant and over 5 years of experience as an Executive Assistant. I am a twin & mother of two wonderful children.



I truly believe in the mission of MN Communities for Caring Children & the importance of building communities using protective factors & education on parenting and child development. My hope is to use my strengths, strong leadership skills, innovating new process improvement procedures and effective communication methods, within the community. I look forward to serving as the Program Assistant & I am excited about this opportunity with MCCC.

If you have any questions or would like to connect, feel free to email me at jlewis@pcam.org.

Introducing Corelle Nakamura , MCCC's Program Evaluation Intern

Corelle Nakamura comes to us through the Community Health Initiative Internship. CHI focuses its resources on communities that face public health disparities by providing resources to help community-based nonprofit organizations that impact public health and social services within these communities.



My name is Corelle Nakamura, and I recently completed my Masters of Public Health degree at the University of Minnesota in Community Health Promotion. I'm originally from Kailua, Hawai'i and came to Minnesota by way of Oakland, California. I love getting to know the Twin Cities, and have enjoyed exploring all Minnesota has to offer during my two year stay. I am even learning to survive these Minnesota winters.

Public Health, Community Development and advancing Health Equity are passions of mine, which makes my involvement with MCCC a perfect fit. I love learning new things, exploring, and adventures outside. One fun fact about me is that our family pet growing up was a "miniature" 300-lb Vietnamese Potbelly Pig named Pavarotti.

This summer, I will be working with MCCC on their program evaluation infrastructure. By performing literature searches, creating logic models, analyzing program data for the past fiscal year, assisting Maxine with qualitative data analysis from the ACE Interface training program evaluation, and helping with other projects, my hope is that these evaluation efforts will further MCCC in its mission.

If you have any questions or would like to connect, feel free to email me at nakam032@umn.edu.

Meet Parent Leadership for Child Safety & Permanency (PLCSP) Team Member and recipient of the Casey Excellence for Children Award – Shana King.

Shana was honored with the Casey Excellence for Children Award for her work as a parent mentor at the Indian Child Welfare Act Law Center in Minneapolis. She invests in her community through her work with 200 Native American families, supporting them in court, meeting with social workers, and assisting them with case plans. Shana is also a parent consultant with the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Her work includes teaching classes on resiliency and strategic storytelling in order to capture and help communicate the stories of families in the child protection system.



What areas of your life have been impacted by PLCSP and how?

PLCSP has impacted every area of my life. I have the skills to go out in my community and make positive changes for my people. I have taken the skills I have learned at MCCC and used them at home with my personal relationships and in my career. I have the tools to walk into a room with confidence and speak to professionals on changes that are important for parents in the system. I use the skills I have gained to also work with my clients. I have been able to network with others at MCCC to better help my community and provide and share resources we have with each other.

What has been your greatest learning in the past two years as part of your PLCSP journey?

The most important thing that MCCC has taught me is that I have a voice and it matters. They taught me how to tell my story in such a way that it impacts the key people who have the power to make changes or how they deal with their clients. They gave me the tools to be a parent advocate in my community. I work as a parent mentor but I also sit on many boards and panels and have a voice as parent.

When you are done with your time with PLCSP, how will you use what you have learned in the future?

I will use the skills I learned from PLCSP for the rest of my career. I hope to work with them in future for a long time. I hope the relationships I have made there will continue to grow and that we can work on future project together.

Is there anything else you would like us to know?

I want PLCSP to know how valuable they are to parents like me. There are a lot of changes to be made in the child welfare system and it is very important for parents to have a voice in that change. It is wonderful that I had this opportunity to learn so much. This has truly helped me to have a better understanding of myself and therefore be a better mentor to my clients. It is important that we can heal a family as a whole. It is about the children but an important part of that child's life is their parents.

Updates from Central Minnesota

Saint Cloud Area

Saint Cloud Juneteenth
MCCC was invited by the [Central Minnesota Promise Neighborhood](#) to be a vendor at the Saint Cloud Juneteenth Celebration at Riverside Park. The event was co-sponsored by Saint Cloud State University and [the African American Male Forum](#). Central Minnesota Promise Neighborhood provides family and youth support connecting them to resources and services. They also serve as liaisons between schools and social services.



Anthonia and Jacorala are exploring the Juneteenth resources.

Promise Neighborhood is located at
1114 9th Ave SE
Saint Cloud, MN
(320) 251-0571



MCCC resources at the Juneteenth.



Bill Deputie is tabling at the Saint Cloud Juneteenth.

Central Minnesota ACEs Collaborative Outreach and Awareness

Workgroup held their first meeting on June 23rd. The work group is lead by Steve Vincent, ACE Leadership Team Member, and Roxy Foster, Regional Director of Prevention Initiatives at MCCC.

Purpose:

The Outreach Workgroup builds a stronger and healthier community by increasing awareness and understanding of ACEs (adverse childhood experiences). We seek to understand their impact on one's health. As well as the impact on the the well-being of individuals, families and, communities. We want to learn the steps to prevent ACEs and build on our strengths.

Goal:

Increase community awareness around ACE's and how it impacts the health of the individual and their communities. For more information contact Roxy at 651-442-8914 or rfoster@pcamn.org.

The Circle of Parents Facilitator Training is designed to train individuals as facilitators of Circle of Parents groups. These groups provide caregivers across Minnesota with mutual self-help support environments for talking about their parenting struggles and successes. The Facilitator Training is free to participants who would like to lead and facilitate a Circle of Parents group anywhere in Minnesota. The content of the training is created by Minnesota Communities Caring for Children and utilizes training resources from the [Circle of Parents National Network](#).



**Circle of Parents
Facilitator Training**
Sharing Ideas. Sharing Support.

Minnesota Communities
Caring for Children
for Children

MCCC is offering a Circle of Parents Facilitators Training
This is a **FREE** training but registration is required.
Light breakfast and lunch included.

Date: Monday, July 18th
Time: Welcome at 8:30am
Training from 9:00am-4:00pm
Where: Washington Education Center,
803 Oak Street, Room 308 in Brainerd

To Register and for more information please contact:
Mary Weaver,
218-731-0705
mweaver@pcamm.org

Last day to register is July 8th

Our mission is to empower individuals and communities to stop child abuse and neglect before it starts through awareness, education, support, and leadership for action.



CIRCLE of PARENTS
Sharing Ideas. Sharing Support.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS & SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for Happy Hour in December!

Surly Brewing Company on Monday, December 5th

Watch for more information this fall!



NEWS YOU CAN USE

The Whole-Brain Child: 12 Revolutionary Strategies to Nurture Your Child's Developing Mind

In this transformative and practical book, Daniel J. Siegel, neuropsychiatrist, and parenting expert Tina Payne Bryson demystify the meltdowns and aggravation of children by helping parents to understand how the science of the brain manifests itself in the behaviors and abilities of children.

This book enables parents and other care takers of children to gain empathy and adjust their expectations for their children by providing neuroscientific-based explanations of some tried-and-true parenting techniques, as well as new ones to foster your child's growth.

Learn more [here](#).

Help the Child, Coach the Parent

The key to helping children succeed is in supporting and training their parents. A research study conducted in Jamaica provides scientific evidence that the impact of coaching parents can have a positive impact on the development of noncognitive skills, "a set of emotional and psychological habits and mind-sets that enable children to negotiate life effectively inside and outside of school."

Early exposure to intense or chronic stress can cause disruptions on the neurobiological level that can hinder the development of noncognitive skills. Through interventions that teach parents how to create stable and nurturing environment for their children, emotional stability and resilience improve.

Read more [here](#).

DONATE NOW!

With the support of individuals like you, we can eliminate child abuse in our state. Thanks for joining MCCC in providing better outcomes for our children and protecting our future.

Minnesota Communities Caring for Children
Home of Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota and Circle of Parents Minnesota
(651) 523-0099 | pcamn@pcamn.org | www.pcamn.org



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