



Planning Ahead for Children

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

ChildPlan Inc. is a non-profit collaborative advocacy group made up of 17 different organizations and agencies in East Hartford which provide programs and services to children and families in East Hartford.

The mission of ChildPlan Inc. is to proactively and effectively collaborate with the East Hartford Community to improve the quality of lives of our children and families.

It has been quite a productive and active few months since our last newsletter! Thanks to the generosity of our new Mayor, ChildPlan was one of the beneficiaries of the proceeds from the Biennial Mayor's Ball held in March, 2006. At right, Mayor Melody Currey presents a check for \$15,000 to myself and ChildPlan Vice President, Stan de Mello.



And, after a great deal of work from board members who worked diligently with our consultant, Lisa Grossman, ChildPlan submitted an outstanding grant proposal to the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving in April. Many thanks to those members who volunteered countless hours on committees to assist us in identifying, writing, and editing portions of the grant which will benefit ChildPlan.

While we are thanking people...kudos to all involved in the success of ChildPlan's Child Sexual Abuse Prevention presentation to community members and families which was held on June 8, 2006 at the East Hartford Community Cultural Center. Dinner and daycare services were provided to over 80 parents and their families in an effort to educate parents about Sexual Offenders. Attorney General Richard Blumenthal provided the welcoming address and spoke about safety issues for parents regarding their children's internet use. Commander Bob Kenary and Cephus Nolan then presented a fascinating and educational program on Child Sexual Abuse. Their passion and commitment to educate parents and community members on prevention are commendable.

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Save the Date for our Annual Membership Reception, September 28, 2006 from 5:00—7:00 PM at the Two Rivers Magnet School and November 4, 2006 for the Fundraising Committee's first event, A Mystery Bus Tour. Breakfast, Lunch, raffles, gifts, and tons of laughs are guaranteed!

The PLTI and PEP programs were an amazing success, graduating 25 people this year. We congratulate the participants as well as the organizers for their participation and commitment to East Hartford's Children, and are excited to include the graduates into ChildPlan's family of future leaders.

The Early Child Care and Education Committee, in conjunction with East Hartford's Summer Music Series, organized an extremely enjoyable and tremendously successful Family Fun night for East Hartford's families. Held on June 22, 2006 on East Hartford's Town Green, the event included a magician and music by the Aztec Two-Step Band. It was a wonderful night for all!

As we look forward to Fall 2006 we anticipate our annual meeting on September 26, 2006, a corporate breakfast, the Mystery Tour, and the continuation of PLTI and PEP programs. On behalf of the Executive Board, I would like to take this time to thank all of our board members for their tireless support and efforts in support of ChildPlan's mission.

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors:

Have a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable summer! Debbie Poerico



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MEMORIAL FUND

FAMILY FUN NIGHT/SUMMER MUSIC SERIES

The FIRST Family Fun Night was held on June 15th at the East Hartford Town Green — fun was had by all! The weather turned out great and we had many families in attendance. Kids enjoyed “Dan the Magician’s” entertaining show including audience participation. ChildPlan and East Hartford School Readiness also sponsored face painting, a sun catcher craft, and a put-put game for the kids.

ChildPlan, East Hartford Public Library, East Hartford School Readiness, Parent Leadership Training Institute, People Empowering People in Spanish, P.U.R.P.L.E. (Lead Prevention Program), Silver Lane Family Resource Center, Willowbrook—Head Start, and the YMCA all had information for parents and families attending the event.

Aztec Two-Step performed later and there was great attendance for their performance too. **Parks and Recreation will be sponsoring summer music every Thursday night on the town green at 6:30 PM (rain location the Community Cultural Center).**

Dan the Magician entertaining families



This program was funded by East Hartford ChildPlan and East Hartford School Readiness

PEOPLE EMPOWERING PEOPLE EN ESPAÑOL



We are very proud to congratulate the above graduates of PEP en Espanol: Olga Brand, Rosa Cisneros, Guadalupe Gonzales, Blanca Hernandez, Lidia Jimenez, Eloisa Lira, Ivett Ramirez, Beatriz Romerao and Maria. Salas.

Ten parents graduated on July 13 from our FIRST People Empowering People Class taught in Spanish. The participants improved their communication, problem solving and parenting skills, increased their knowledge of community resources, their ability to share new skills or knowledge, and increased their empowerment in taking steps toward economic self-sufficiency.

Our community will benefit from these parents who believe in their individual and collective ability to achieve their dreams and use their ability to change or enhance their community — their collaborative community project will be a Latino Information Center, which will provide information printed in Spanish about East Hartford resources, schools and events for Spanish speaking residents. Volunteers will run the Center which will be opened for several hours a week.

Special thanks to PLTI graduate Jorge Alvarez for helping us develop and implement this program and PLTI graduates Maria Guzman and Lydia Sanabria who facilitated the class.

This program is funded by the William Casper Graustein Memorial Trust Fund.

PARENT LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE

On June 24, 2006, East Hartford’s FIRST Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) Class graduated at the state-wide graduation ceremony held at the Legislative Office Building by The Connecticut Commission on Children. East Hartford was one of nine cities and towns celebrated at the ceremony. It was a great experience for the graduates to share their PLTI experience as well as hear about others’ experiences. The East Hartford Class chose Lydia Sanabria to speak and we would like to commend her on a job well done.

The PLTI enables parents to become leading advocates for children and change agents for the next generation.

If you are interested in learning how to better advocate for your children and the children of our community, we will be holding another PLTI starting this October. Please call Karen at ChildPlan: 860-569-5630.



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ChildPlan Fall Calendar

ChildPlan Membership Reception

September 28, 2006
Two Rivers Magnet School
5:00—7:00 PM

Mystery Bus Tour

November 4, 2006
Time and Bus Pick Up Location TBA

Parent Leadership Training Institute

Retreat: Saturday, October 14th
First Class: Thursday, October 19th

Town-wide Child Sexual Abuse Training for Parents and Adults

Coming This Fall
Date, Location and Time TBA

Family Scarecrow Competition

October (in Conjunction with
East Hartford's Fall Fest)

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If you have questions or upcoming story ideas  
for the next newsletter, please contact Karen  
Gilbert, Editor at ChildPlan: 569-5630 or  
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