Taking care of a baby can sometimes be as overwhelming as it is joyful. Caring for a baby is a big responsibility. When a baby cries inconsolably, it can leave you frustrated, angry, and overwhelmed. But shaking a baby to quiet him or her is dangerous. You should never shake a baby. Each year, many young children suffer serious injuries or die due to violent shaking. It can happen so quickly. A baby cries, and the caregiver becomes frustrated and angry. In the blink of an eye, the child is shaken and the damage is done.

Shaking causes brain damage to babies because they have weak neck muscles that must support their relatively large heads and developing brains. A baby’s brain is fragile. It has not fully developed and is more prone to injury than the brain of an adult.

Injuries from shaking can last for a lifetime. Even a few seconds of shaking can cause serious damage to infants and young children.

GET INVOLVED WITH A CHILDREN’S TRUST FUND PROGRAM IN YOUR AREA!
Never Shake a Baby Campaign and the Children’s Trust Fund

The Children’s Trust Fund (CTF) “Never Shake a Baby Campaign” is designed to make parents, families, caregivers and communities in Michigan aware of the dangers of shaking a baby.

Since it was created in 1982, the Children’s Trust Fund has generated more than $80 million for the prevention of child abuse and neglect throughout the state. Through the work of its direct service programs and local councils across Michigan, the Children’s Trust Fund has provided critical services to more than 8 million children and families.

The Children’s Trust Fund is working in your community thanks to the generous donations of people just like you. If you would like to help bring more prevention programs to your community, you can make a donation to the Children’s Trust Fund in four ways:

- **Buy a Children’s Trust Fund License Plate.**
- **Give through the State Income Tax Check-off.**
- **Donate directly to the trust fund through its website or by mail.**
- **Contact your local prevention council for other ways to help your community.**

*For more information on CTF call:*(517) 373-4320 or 1-800-CHILDREN

Web site: www.michigan.gov/ctf

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