

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
April 22, 2014

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Liz Newberg, Communications Specialist
(860) 560-5636 or cell: (860) 324-1403

Guest Readers Visit CRT Preschool Classrooms for Child Abuse Prevention Day *UConn Huskies Star Stefanie Dolson and Hartford Fire Chief will read to Head Start kids*

HARTFORD – In honor of Child Abuse Prevention Day April 23, UConn Huskies Women’s Basketball star Stefanie Dolson will read to children at Community Renewal Team’s Head Start center. Dolson, who has joined other UConn volunteers throughout the semester at CRT to teach nutrition, will be one of many readers across CRT’s 72 classrooms throughout Hartford and Middlesex counties. Also volunteering as a reader will be Hartford Fire Chief Carlos Huertas.

In its sixth year, CRT’s reading day aims to raise awareness of child abuse and ways to prevent it. The book to be read is an age-appropriate picture book written by Jill Starishevsky entitled, “My Body Belongs to Me,” which reinforces the idea that a child’s body is his or her own. Starishevsky is assistant district attorney in New York City, where she has prosecuted hundreds of sex offenders and dedicated her career to seeking justice for victims of child abuse and sex crimes.

WHO: UConn Huskies Women’s Basketball star Stefanie Dolson and Hartford Fire Chief Huertas will read to children at preschool classrooms in honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHY: CRT’s 6th Annual Child Abuse Prevention Month to raise awareness about child abuse and how to prevent it

WHERE: Stefanie Dolson will be at Locust Street Center, 261 Locust Street. Hartford Fire Chief Huertas and CRT President and CET Lena Rodriguez will be at Ritter Center, 555 Windsor Street.

WHEN: Stefanie Dolson will be reading at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 23. Chief Huertas will be reading at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 23. *Media is invited to attend.*

CRT enrolls more than 1,400 preschool-aged children in Head Start and Early Care and Education classrooms throughout Connecticut. CRT programs go beyond traditional curricula to encompass parent outreach, nutrition programming, family case management and health screenings.

###

Community Renewal Team, Inc. is the designated Community Action Agency for Middlesex and Hartford Counties and is the largest non-profit provider of human services in Connecticut. The agency’s mission is Preparing Our Community to Meet Life’s Challenges. The mission is achieved each day by helping people and families change their lives and create their own opportunities in becoming self-reliant while making sure basic needs are met. CRT’s programs include Head Start, Meals on Wheels, energy assistance, supportive housing and shelters, and many others, serving people in more than 60 cities and towns in both our core catchment area and throughout Connecticut. Visit the www.crtct.org.