



NEWS

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Youth In Need Employee Receives Administrator of the Year Award from Missouri Head Start Association

Monsanto also recognized for its corporate citizenship

The Missouri Head Start Association (MHSA) has selected Tammie Benton, Assistant Head Start Director at Youth In Need, as its 2010 Administrator of the Year. Benton will receive her award in February and will go on to compete at the regional, and possibly national, level. The award honors a Head Start administrator who has made significant contributions to his or her program.

"One of my deepest honors has been the privilege of working with Tammie," said Daryl Rothman, Youth In Need's Vice President of Head Start for St. Charles, Lincoln, Warren and Montgomery Counties. "She represents the best of who we are and what we do."

Benton began her career with Youth In Need in 1998, when the agency became a Head Start provider. In that time, she has served in a variety of management roles, including responsibility for the program's education curriculum and child and family services.

"More than 11 years ago, I was fortunate enough to have been adopted into Youth In Need's family," Benton said. "I never imagined that I had the capacity to learn all that I have. But I am also only one member of this amazing Head Start team. The positive, respectful culture that we have makes it easy for each of us to spread our wings."

In addition, Monsanto, Youth In Need's Principal Children's Partner, is the recipient of the MHSA 2010 Corporate Award. Monsanto also will compete regionally with the other state winners.

The Monsanto Fund is the primary funder of Youth In Need's 6,000-square-foot science discovery garden, which offers children and families a place to learn about plant life, agriculture and sustainable ecology. Specifically, Head Start and Early Head Start children have access to an

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interactive science education curriculum that enhances their center- and home-based learning activities.

Youth In Need, a proud member of the United Way, is an eastern Missouri regional agency serving more than 10,000 children, teens and families each year with residential group homes, homeless street outreach, education, counseling and support groups, foster care case management and infant, child and family development programs. Youth In Need's mission: ***Believing in the power of potential, Youth In Need's mission is to provide nurturing environments and educational opportunities so children, youth, and families will find safety and hope, achieve their goals, and build a positive future.*** Youth In Need's programs and services are funded, in part, by its 2009 Children's Partners, including Monsanto as the exclusive Principal Partner. Visit www.youthinneed.org for a complete listing of Youth In Need's Champion, Guardian, Trustee and Patron Partners.

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