



# NEWS

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## ***Youth In Need's Annual Gala Exceeds Fundraising Goals Despite Tough Economy***

ST. CHARLES, Mo., April 6, 2010 — Several years of tough economic conditions have presented many challenges for organizations trying to meet fundraising goals. However, Youth In Need's supporters who attended the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Celebration of Youth on March 20 at Ameristar Casino Resort Spa proved to be as generous as ever, raising more than \$280,000, through the sale of tickets, sponsorships, auction items and charitable pledges using the Missouri State Tax Credit Program.

"Our auctioneers asked guests to consider making a 'sacrificial gift,'" said Jim Braun, Youth In Need's President and CEO. "They appealed to their generous spirits by explaining that no one is having a tougher time than the children and families Youth In Need serves. We feel extremely fortunate that our guests were motivated to give. Their generosity was the reason we exceeded our fundraising expectations.

"Now we go back to the business of helping children and families in crisis. Sadly, given the economic recession and the increase in homelessness and unemployment, children and families continue to need our services more than ever," Braun said.

This year's event honored Virginia Boschert and Frank and Charline Martinez, three long-time champions for children and families, Youth In Need supporters and active St. Charles County residents. Ms. Virginia Boschert and Family, Grant Alexander Executive Search, Mary and Rick Leach, Corporate Group, Inc., SSM St. Joseph Health Center and Hospital West, Paul and Gwen Middeke and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and were among Celebration of Youth's leading sponsors.

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 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 2010 Children's Partners, including Monsanto as the

exclusive Principal Partner. Visit [www.youthinneed.org](http://www.youthinneed.org) for a complete listing of Youth In Need's Champion, Guardian, Trustee and Patron Partners.

**PHOTO CAPTIONS:**

**ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF MICHAEL SCHLUETER, SCHLUETER LOCATION PHOTOGRAPHY**

**COY2010\_64:** Bruce and Heidi Sowatsky.

**COY2010\_66:** Dr. Matt Conoyer, his wife Ellen Conoyer and Dr. J. Michael Conoyer.

**COY2010\_71:** Stacia Peterson, Don and Linda LaBrayere, Missy Palitzsch and her husband Tom Palitzsch, a member of Youth In Need's Board of Directors

**COY2010\_96:** The Honorable Lucy Rauch and Elizabeth M. Rauch.

**COY2010\_137:** Celebration of Youth Honoree Virginia Boschert (center) with three of her children, from left, Norma Pardieck, Darrell Boschert and Bob Bob Boschert, and Youth In Need Board Chair Eliot Asyre (right).

**COY2010\_146:** Celebration of Youth Honorees Frank and Charline Martinez with Youth In Need Board Chair Eliot Asyre (right).

**COY2010\_215:** Monsanto's Robert Crumpton and Amy Bernhard, Youth In Need President and CEO Jim Braun and Youth In Need Vice President of Development and Marketing Rob Muschany.

**COY2010\_222:** Celebration of Youth Steering Committee Chairs Carol Conoyer, Kim Scheidegger York and Cathy Glosier.

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