Youth In Need Receives COA Accreditation

After months of planning, preparation, reporting and documentation, Youth In Need has received another full, four-year accreditation from the Council on Accreditation (COA)!

This “seal of approval” identifies Youth In Need as a provider that has met high performance standards and has made a commitment to stakeholders to deliver the very best quality services. Because COA reviews and re-accredits the entire organization, not just specific programs, stakeholders can have confidence in the credibility, integrity and achievement of the entire organization.

“The feedback we received from the Council on Accreditation review both confirms that we’re operating with the very best quality and brings commendation for how our strength-based philosophy helps inspire and motivate clients,” said Jim Braun, Youth In Need’s President and CEO.

The COA re-accreditation process involves a detailed review and analysis of both an organization’s administrative operations and its service delivery practices. All are measured against national standards of best practice. These standards emphasize services that are accessible, appropriate, culturally responsive, evidence-based and outcomes-oriented. They also confirm that a skilled and supported workforce provides the services and treats all individuals respectfully.

The reviewers spent nearly a week at Youth In Need, pouring over client files, policies, procedures and financial statements, as well as visiting sites and meeting clients and families. Throughout this thorough process, Youth In Need emerged again and again as a solid organization with exemplary programs and practices.

A few highlights direct from reviewers include:

• “It’s one thing to have it in writing, but another to have a strength-based philosophy that is ‘pervasive’ throughout an agency. It’s evident not only in work with clients but also in how Youth In Need values and supports staff and other stakeholders. The agency’s mission is obvious!”

• In the Transitional Living and Independent Living Programs, “community partnerships provide a comprehensive array of resources to support clients’ paths to reaching independence. This is most definitely a strength!”

• In Head Start and Early Head Start, reviewers were “impressed with the agency’s commitment to communicating with parents in their native languages.”

COA is an international, independent, not-for-profit, child- and family-service and behavioral healthcare accrediting organization. Founded in 1977 by the Child Welfare League of America and Family Service America (now known as the Alliance for Children and Families), COA originally was known as an accrediting body for family and children’s agencies. However, COA currently accredits more than 45 different service areas, including substance abuse treatment, adult day care, services for the homeless, foster care, and inter-country adoption. In 2005, COA accredited or was in the process of accrediting more than 1,500 private and public organizations that serve more than 7 million individuals and families in the United States, Canada, Bermuda, Puerto Rico, England and the Philippines.
Hundreds Tee Off for Youth In Need

Youth In Need, with Presenting Sponsor McCarthy Building Companies, Inc., held its 15th annual Golfing for Youth Benefit Tournament on August 6 at Whitmoor Country Club in St. Charles. The tournament raised more than $110,000 in support of Youth In Need’s programs.

Hundreds of golfers enjoyed a break from the 100-degree heat to play in the 18-hole four-person scramble tournament. Following the tournament, golfers and guests enjoyed a cocktail hour, dinner, live and silent auctions, and awards ceremony. There also was a new feature at this year’s tournament; all silent auction bidding was done electronically via participants’ cell phones, either through texting or a web-based personalized bidding page.

Congratulations to this year’s Championship Flight First Place team: Jeff Viehmann, Dale Boggs, Jeremy Reidelberger and Ryan Eaton! A full list of winners can be found online at www.youthinneed.org.

Find photos from this year’s tournament in the Image Gallery at www.youthinneed.org.

Frank will be missed. As a self-proclaimed “professional volunteer,” Frank estimated that he began volunteering in 1958 at a Japanese orphanage, while stationed there as a Marine. His service would continue for the rest of his life, and the less fortunate Youth In Need served as well as many other charities were the beneficiaries. We should all leave such an indelible mark.

Youth In Need Remembers Long-Time Friend

Earlier this year, Youth In Need lost a wonderful friend. Frank Martinez passed away in February but left behind an extraordinary legacy. A former board member, Frank was active with Youth In Need for nearly 25 years, starting as a “Mr. Fix It” then as a board member and generous donor. He and his wife Charline donated the building for Youth In Need’s current Transitional Living Program group home and made a generous planned gift as well.

Most importantly, Frank took a personal interest in the children and teens at Youth In Need. He encouraged them to always challenge themselves and pursue their educational goals. True to those core beliefs, Charline and their three children, Steve Martinez, Pat Dietrich and Linda Newberry, asked that memorial gifts be used to establish the Frank F. Martinez Educational Assistance Fund. The fund, which is still open to contributions, will be used to assist youth in the Transitional Living Program with their educational endeavors by helping with tuition, transportation, school supplies and other academic pursuits.

Frank Martinez

Gentle eyes
A caring smile
A helping hand
A man, who had it all
His gentle eyes have seen great things
His caring smile made the sun shine brighter
His helping hands were held out to many; shaken by all
Frank Martinez was a great man
Happiness filled his eyes
Laughter sat on the tip of his tongue
His hands, worn over the years, built and fixed many things
Not once did he stop caring
Not once did he stop loving
Not once did he stop helping others in need
His legacy will carry on

By Gabrielle Clemens
2009-2011 Youth In Need TLP Resident

Don Kalicak (center), Mercy’s Vice President of Regional Development, presents a check to Rob Muschany (left), Youth In Need’s Vice President of Development and Marketing, and Jim Braun (right), Youth In Need’s President and CEO. Mercy is Youth In Need’s 2012 Principal Children’s Partner.
Correction
In the 2011 Annual Report, Youth In Need incorrectly placed Gwen and Paul Middeke in the wrong category of the Annual Roll of Giving. They should have been recognized at the Founder’s Circle level. Youth In Need apologizes for the error.

Save the Date: Upcoming Events
Mark your calendar for the annual State Farm Insurance Charity Scramble on Thursday, Nov. 1, 2012, at Old Hickory Golf Club in St. Peters. Sponsorship and player opportunities are available for the 18-hole four-person scramble. All proceeds benefit Youth In Need. Watch for more details at www.youthinneed.org.


November to benefit Youth In Need. Watch for more Facebook to stay up-to-date on the latest information at www.youthinneed.org, or in player opportunities are available for the Farm Insurance Charity Scramble on November to benefit Youth In Need.

Safe Place Gets New Look
This August, the national Safe Place program rolled out a new logo across the country. Children and teens who are experiencing crisis will continue to identify Safe Place sites by their yellow and black, diamond-shaped signs. However, imagery on the signs has changed. All Safe Place sites should have new signage in place by March 2013.

Safe Place is a national program that connects children and teens in crisis with help via youth friendly businesses. Youth In Need is the regional provider of Safe Place in eastern Missouri, managing more than 700 Safe Place sites, 300 of which are mobile sites through Metro Transit. Other sites include QuikTrip, Walgreens, banks, libraries, police and fire stations and local YMCAs.

Police Officer Wins Award for Helping Youth
St. Charles City Police Officer Paul Yadlosky recently received the John J. McAtee Award from Mental Health America of Eastern Missouri for his exceptional compassion in working with one of the residents at Youth In Need’s Emergency Shelter. Officer Yadlosky responded to a call from the Emergency Shelter when a youth resident expressed homicidal and suicidal threats. Officer Yadlosky was kind, empathetic to the youth and so very patient, waiting more than four hours with the youth so that he could take the youth to the hospital. Officer Yadlosky receives Youth In Need’s heartfelt thanks for exemplifying our mission and showing true compassion to a youth in crisis!

Youth In Need to Honor Blues COO at Celebration of Youth
Youth In Need will honor Bruce Affleck, Chief Operating Officer of the St. Louis Blues and former player, and his wife Cecily at the 26th annual Celebration of Youth in March 2013. Guests also will enjoy a new venue for the 2013 event. Watch for more details in coming months.

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About Youth Update
Upon request, individual names may be placed on our mailing list. Please inform us of any address change or correction, or of those individuals who have moved, died or are no longer interested in receiving the newsletter. Please send this information, with the zip code of the previous address, to Youth In Need’s Development Office at development@youthinneed.org or 636-757-9347.

Please forward all communications with reference to editorial content to April Klutenkamper, Marketing Director, at 636-757-9330 or aprilk@youthinneed.org.
It’s not too early to begin making plans for the holiday season, especially at Youth In Need! Each year, Youth In Need holds a holiday drive to ensure that every child, teen and family we serve has a chance to experience the true magic of the holiday season.

Last year, Youth In Need served more than 23,000 children, teens and families—all received some kind of holiday support. Participation from generous individuals and businesses is what makes this annual drive such a phenomenal success. We hope you can plan to help us again this year.

There are three ways to make a difference this holiday season:

• Adopt a Youth In Need program and fulfill the needs of a classroom, group home or therapeutic program.

• Collect items from Youth In Need’s wish list to be distributed where needed.

• Make a 100 percent tax-deductible cash donation that will help purchase needed items.

If you or your business are interested in supporting this annual drive, contact Nancy Clark, Community Relations Manager, at 636-757-9331 or nclark@youthinneed.org.