Missouri Governor Matt Blunt selected Youth In Need’s central office in St. Charles as the stage for signing House Bill 184 into effect on July 5.

Rep. Tom Dempsey, R-St. Charles, created the legislation, known as the Children’s Services Protection Act. The bill ensures that all money collected from a 1/8-cent sales tax passed in 2004 will be used to provide mental health and substance abuse services for youth in St. Charles County.

The tax came in response to findings that more than 10,000 young people were in need of a variety of services that were not available at the time. The Community and Children’s Resource Board that administers the fund estimates that approximately $200,000 are being withheld by local governments each year to pay for TIF projects. Bill 184 will prohibit that from happening in the future.

Because “Good Enough” Is Not “Good Enough”

Youth In Need’s staff is committed to providing quality services to the thousands of children, teens, parents and guardians who walk through its doors every year.

A question you may ask is: How does Youth In Need ensure the services they provide are of the highest quality? The answer is in our commitment to being nationally accredited through the Council on Accreditation, being a United Way-member agency, being a recipient of the Better Business Bureau’s Wise Giving Alliance seal, and having our Head Start centers accredited through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (and soon) Missouri Accreditation.

Through these distinctions, Youth In Need demonstrates its commitment to quality and its integrity to all stakeholders: the Board of Directors, staff, donors, the community and clients. Youth In Need follows nationally recognized best practice standards in governance, management and service standards. This makes for a stronger agency in terms of governance, organizational structure, management and the services provided.

For our Board of Directors, these distinctions can be a measure of organizational confidence. In addition, there are standards to meet in regard to personnel practices. Our compliance shows that we are as committed to our staff as we are to our mission. Our donors trust that we use funds appropriately and responsibly, and through these certifications, we earn their trust that we are making sound financial decisions. Finally, our clients are at the heart of our mission to provide nurturing environments and educational opportunities. Accreditation and the certifications Youth In Need holds show that we are committed to providing the best possible services because we respect and care about our clients.

By following best practices, we are able to demonstrate stakeholder confidence and earn the public’s trust. It also reaffirms our commitment to providing quality services that, in turn, result in better outcomes for the children, teens and families we are proud to serve every day.

For more information about Youth In Need’s accreditation and adherence to these high-quality standards, contact April Delehanty, Senior Director of Quality Improvement, at 636-546-5600, ext. 110.

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Frogs Invade Youth In Need

In July, the St. Charles City Home-Based Head Start and Early Head Start program welcomed a special guest: 7-year-old Sage Rentfrow. Sage is the son of Susan Rentfrow, one of three master gardeners who have been volunteering to design and build Youth In Need’s 7,000-square foot Discovery Garden at its central office on Boone’s Lick Road in St. Charles.

Sage presented his Science with Sage demonstration for a special socialization on frogs. Sage brought his frog collection in to share with the children in the Head Start program. His presentation included pictures and facts about frogs, discussion about the life cycle of a frog, and opportunities to touch and hold all stages of tadpoles and grown frogs before helping add them to the waterfall portion of the pond in the Discovery Garden.

Children in the Head Start and Early Head Start program enrolled in the center-based program or the home-based program. The center-based program offers a traditional classroom setting for children to learn, while the home-based program gives parents a one-on-one experience with a teacher who visits the family’s home. Each family receives one 90-minute home visit per week and two group events, called socializations, per month. The socializations are opportunities for children in the home-based program to experience a classroom setting and interact with other children and parents.

St. Charles City Head Start Area Manager Michelle Hill said, “Having elementary school children share their knowledge about a topic is a great way to promote the mentoring that we encourage and involve the community in our program. Thanks so much to Sage for his volunteerism and willingness to help our Head Start children grow and learn.”

Sage’s presentation was such a success that he’s been requested to deliver it at other sites in the future.
Dear Friends,

When people learn that Youth In Need provides so many kinds of services to more than 9,000 individuals at 30 service locations spread over nearly 100 miles, they sometimes ask, “How do you manage all that and keep programs running smoothly?”

This is a great question, and the short answer is: More than 300 tremendously skilled and dedicated staff, a committed and talented Board and hundreds of caring volunteers. The reality, however, is more complex. Good intentions and good people who work hard will not automatically ensure complex work consistent in the quality of the work and follow ethical practices.

Among Youth In Need’s core values are commitment to high quality services, full accountability to the community and the highest standards of ethics and integrity. So how do we know we are delivering on these commitments?

First, like any successful business, we have internal “quality control” processes in place. We regularly monitor the numbers of people we’re serving at various locations, the kinds of needs they have and the results and impact of our services. We set many specific goals and measure the extent to which we are meeting performance targets. This process requires involvement from staff at all levels and locations.

Each quarter, a “continuous quality improvement” committee meets to conduct an in-depth review of monitoring information. This committee includes representatives from throughout the agency, and the process is led by our Senior Director of Quality Improvement. On a regular basis, the Board of Directors reviews the committee’s work and monitors management’s plans to continually improve quality. These meetings are both enlightening and inspiring. They bring to life Youth In Need’s efforts to improve program performance, ensure safe facilities, hire and train qualified staff, define effective policies, design programs based on the latest evidence and follow ethical practices.

Second, make sure that we are in full compliance with many standards that are monitored by “external” organizations. We secure comprehensive annual independent audits of our finances, and receive site visits from Federal and State representatives to review specific grant programs. We are extremely proud to meet the extensive requirements needed to be nationally accredited by the Council on Accreditation. We meet the rigorous Quality Standards of the United Way, and the Better Business Bureau’s standards for non-profit organizations.

Throughout the year, external and independent reviewers spend many hours and days at Youth In Need, and we consistently meet all standards and expectations.

This edition of Youth-Update includes a story with more details about our national accreditation and continuous quality improvement efforts (on page 1). You’ll also read about volunteer projects, media and fundraising events, other donor opportunities, and a special visit from Missouri Governor Matt Blunt. As you read these stories, please keep in mind that everyone involved with Youth In Need, from the youngest volunteer to the Governor, can be assured that we are also not only working very hard to reach our mission, but that we are doing so with a deep commitment to ensuring the quality, accountability and integrity of our work.
Youth In Need In Brief...

Starbucks Supports Youth In Need, Gives Free Java to Donors
What’s a better way to celebrate the opening of a new Starbucks than to enjoy free coffee? There is no better way, of course.
On Saturday, July 7, St. Charles’ newest Starbucks, located at Elm and Highway 370, dedicated the afternoon to raising money for Youth In Need. For a $5 donation to Youth In Need, Starbucks customers enjoyed a free beverage of their choice as well as the chance to win some great prize drawings.
Guests enjoyed entertainment from a jazz ensemble, and several teens from Youth In Need’s Emergency Shelter recited poetry they had written for the event. The afternoon raised more than $300 for Youth In Need.

Bell Electric Revs Engines for Kids
Twenty-five motorcycle riders and passengers participated in the first annual Bell Electric Ride for Youth In Need on Saturday, July 14.
The 150-mile ride began at Bell Electric in Maryland Heights and ended at Grappa Grill in St. Charles. The event raised $1,100 from registration fees, T-shirt sales and 50/50 ticket sales.

The Reding Company

What led to you to begin your support of Youth In Need?
We were looking for a program where we could get a little more involved in life. Life goes by so fast, and we thought we should start giving back to the community at this time in our lives. The community has been good to us, so we thought it was time to give back. A friend told us about Youth In Need, and we met with Jim [Braun, Youth In Need’s President and CEO] and really became connected to the cause of helping kids.

Do you remember your first donation to Youth In Need? Tell us about that.
We had been meeting with Jim on the purchase of the agency’s new headquarters. After that, we made a small monetary donation.

The Reding Company is a unique donor, in that you’ve found some alternative ways to support the organization. You not only give monetary donations, but you also organize donation drives for the children and families we serve. What do you enjoy most about the donation drives?
We had received a letter about Youth In Need needing donations for the holidays. My daughters approached me with the idea to do something different for the kids. So, we went on a shopping spree. We’re getting ready for another shopping spree for school supplies for the kids.

What is it about Youth In Need that compels you to continue your support?
It’s good to know that you’re helping kids that are much less fortunate than we were as kids, or that my kids were. It makes you feel good inside. Our support is mostly about the kids. We were all pretty fortunate growing up, but not with monetary things. We had seven kids in our family, and we didn’t get a lot at Christmas. I remember one year getting a pair of pants and an apple and one toy. As kids, we didn’t get a lot, but we had a loving family. To see kids who don’t have a support system from their families just tugs at your heart. To be able to give them things that put a smile on their faces makes you feel pretty good inside. The other thing is that Marissa [Pulizzi, Youth In Need’s Senior Director of Development] is always so cheerful and bright, which makes you want to get involved and do something.

Supporting Youth In Need plays an important role in your business. Since that’s the case, how do you think it impacts your business? Does it engage employees in becoming more philanthropic?
No question, it does. Supporting causes is a big part of our business. We always are looking at what we can do for people, whether it’s the Red Cross or Youth In Need. You have to give back to your community. My daughters [Heather Reding and Linda Anstei] come up with the creative ideas to support the organization. I had purchased some rock for my landscaping that didn’t match. It was my daughter Heather who suggested that I donate the rock to Youth In Need’s new garden. Not only do the organizations benefit from this support, but my daughters also benefit internally. A gentleman once told me that giving comes back and pays you two-fold.

Memorials and Tributes

Youth In Need gratefully acknowledges the following memorials and tributes. Memorial or tribute gifts given after August 15, 2007, will be recognized in the next issue of Youth Update. We have made every attempt to list names accurately. We regret any errors or omissions. If your name is in error, please contact Youth In Need’s Development Office at development@youthinnedd.org.

In Memory Of...
Bettee Daly
Mr. Fred Daly
Janet Weber
Mr. and Mrs. Les Hunter
Mr. and Mrs. Rich Zander
Margaret Zander
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Aceto
Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Conoyer
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Eickelberg
Mr. Dan Martin
Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Murphy
Ms. Evelyn Steinbrueck

In Honor Of...
Dr. Ben Conoyer
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Glosser
Jerry & Mary Beth Daniels
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rusnak
Maria Mayo
Mr. Richard Greene
Karen Savan
Ms. Linda Antonacci
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Terbrock

For a complete listing of Safe Place sites, visit www.youthinnedd.org and click on the Safe Place logo.

Youth Update ■ 3
Radio Stations Partner with Youth In Need

KMOX-AM selected Youth In Need as its Voice of Caring Partner for August. Each month, the station partners with a different charity to showcase its services to the station’s listeners.

As part of this partnership, Youth In Need received four public service announcements that aired 80 times throughout the month. Jim Braun, Youth In Need’s President and CEO, also was interviewed on a Saturday morning edition of Total Information AM. In addition, Youth In Need had a special page on KMOX’s Web site at www.kmox.com.

KSD-FM, country radio’s 93.7 The Bull, selected Youth In Need to be the recipient of a special school supply drive. The station invited listeners via on-air broadcasts and its Web site to bring a donation of school supplies to the Kenny Chesney concert at the Verizon Wireless Amphitheater on Aug. 10. All listeners who made a donation were entered into a drawing to win backstage passes and front-row seats at the concert. Youth In Need staff was on-hand to collect donations. Country listeners showed their generosity by filling a Youth In Need 15-passenger van with crayons, notebooks, pens, pencils, glue, and other beginning-of-the-year necessities.

Thanks to everyone who participated in Youth In Need’s back-to-school drive, collecting more than $10,000 in school supplies.

Spread Holiday Cheer

It’s not too early to begin thinking about finding the perfect holiday greeting. Look no further, because you’ll find that greeting at Youth In Need. This year, Youth In Need has two colorful holiday cards for sale. Each card features illustrations from children in Youth In Need’s Head Start program.

The first design is a yellow star on a blue background. The inside message reads: Wishing you a holiday season full of fun, friendship, laughter and peace. The back of both cards features Youth In Need’s agency information and logo.

Cards are sold in packs of 10 for $8. All proceeds from holiday card sales benefit the children, teens and families Youth In Need serves. Don’t wait! Order your holiday cards today by calling 636-946-5600, ext. 253.

Tax Credits 101

The kids are headed back to school. So, why not take a course yourself? A crash course in tax credits, that is! Not to worry, though. You won’t even have to crack a book. Everything you need to know is right here!

Course Description: This course covers the basics of tax credits; who qualifies; and how it benefits you and Youth In Need. We'll teach you the basic process of purchasing tax credits and examine the total savings of your charitable gift.

Course Prerequisite: Anyone who pays Missouri State Taxes and contributes $100 or more to Youth In Need.

Supplies: NAP and YOP 1010 Sylabus.

Recent Tax Credits 101 graduate Herb Lester, from MLS Homes, had this to say about tax credits: “Not only are tax credits easy to use, but they allow you to multiply and leverage the amount of money you are able to give.”

A professor of tax credits is available any time to answer your questions or explain the benefits to you and Youth In Need. Please contact the Development Office at 636-946-5600 to learn more.

Homework Sample:

You donate $1,000

Federal Deduction* $ 350
Sale Deduction (at a 6% rate) $ 60
50% Missouri Tax Credit $ 500
Total Savings $ 910
Estimated Out-of-Pocket Cost of your donation: $90

*Deduction rate is based on a 35% effective tax rate.

Youth In Need to Participate in St. Charles Blast 2007

Join Youth In Need and its Safe Place program at the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce 2007 Blast on Sept. 22 from 3 to 9 p.m.

This family fun day at New Town in St. Charles will offer a petting zoo, 5K run and one-mile family fun walk, wine and dessert tasting, food, a car show, live entertainment and tons of kids’ games. Booths will be lighted after dark. Youth In Need’s booth will include a Safe Place/Youth in Need Beanbag Tic-Tac-Toe game, with prizes for all participants.

Join the fun by volunteering at Youth In Need’s booth or attending the event. Last year, the Blast drew more than 2,000 people!

Safe Place, a program of Youth In Need, is a national crisis prevention program for children and teens. When a young person is in need of immediate assistance, he or she can go to a “Safe Place site,” local businesses and non-profit organizations that display the yellow and black Safe Place sign. All employees are trained to give the young person a quiet place to sit while they call the Youth In Need 24-Hour Help Line, where someone is dispatched immediately to pick up the child, assess the situation, and offer necessary assistance.

In its inaugural year with Youth In Need, Safe Place has expanded to more than 200 sites throughout St. Louis and has reached more than 5,000 children and teens with Safe Place information. Join us on Sept. 22 to celebrate family togetherness, community spirit and keeping our young people safe! For more information, call Jayna Cardetti at 636-946-5600, ext. 253.
The Faces of the Lives You Can Change
You can help more than 9,000 children, teens and families in 2008

The Power of a Corporate Partner
Your company has the power to make a difference in our community by investing in the lives of the children, teens and families Youth In Need serves throughout eastern Missouri. Your commitment says that you, too, believe in the power of potential.

Corporate Partner Benefits
Through a one-time, minimum cash gift of $1,500 or more, you:
• Receive a variety of valuable marketing benefits.
• Receive tickets to Youth In Need’s 2008 special events.
• Reach potential new customers.
• Make an investment in the lives of children, teens and families.

Corporate Partner Giving Levels
$1,500
$3,000
$5,000
$10,000
$15,000 (exclusive for one partner)

Plan to Partner with Youth In Need in 2008
To receive your Partnership Program packet:
• Visit our Web site at: www.youthinneed.org
• Click on “2008 Corporate Partners”
• Download the easy enrollment application
• Or call 636-946-5600, ext. 254, for additional information.

A commitment from you today will impact the lives of children, teens and families tomorrow.

2007 Corporate Partners Make a Record-Breaking Impact
The 2007 roster of Youth In Need Corporate Partners collectively raised more than $85,000 for the children, teens and families Youth In Need serves. Youth In Need gratefully acknowledges all of the individuals and businesses that committed to building better futures for the children and families in our community. Together, Youth In Need and its Corporate Partners believe in the power of potential™

Principal Partner
CULPEPPERS

Champion Partners
Boeing
Newberry Group
Trans States Holdings

Guardian Partners
Hamilton Jewelers

Trustee Partners
St. Charles Sand Company
RX Systems, Inc.
Rx Systems

Patron Partners
Bob & Mary Beth Kalinich
Jim & Pam Braun

MID RIVERS
Teesha Hernandez
Frank & Charline Martinez

Partner With Us at Our 2008 Fundraising Events
Celebration of Youth
21st annual
Saturday, March 15, 2008
Discovery Ballroom
Ameristar Conference Center

Golfing for Youth
11th annual
Monday, August 11, 2008
Whitmoor Country Club
Top 10 Reasons to Become a Youth In Need Corporate Partner in 2008

10. Because a skate board ramp in the company parking lot will grossly inflate your insurance premiums.
9. Because more than 9,000 children, teens and families count on your support.
8. Because your support provides residential group homes, professional counseling, educational programs and homeless youth outreach.
7. Because you realize a slurpee machine in the employee break lounge is not considered a necessity.
6. Because your support helps your business reach more than 6,000 potential new customers.
5. Because you believe the children are our future. (Hum the tune if you know it.)
4. Because it’s an easy, one-time investment.
3. Because as a partner, you’ll receive special marketing benefits and tickets to Youth In Need’s special events.
2. Because your accountant already told you that tattoos for your employees (even if it is your company logo) don’t qualify for a tax deduction.
1. Because you believe in the power of potential™

2001 and 2002
Community News
D & L Rideout Towing
Findett Corporation
Frank Martinez
Hamilton Jewelers
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Middeke
RX Systems, Inc.
Schnucks Markets, Inc.
Suburban Journals of St. Charles County
Thomson Printing
Vantage Homes

2003
Ameristar Casino St. Charles
Beau Funeral Homes
Beckerle Preferred Properties
Community News
Findett Corporation
Hamilton Jewelers
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Martinez
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Middeke
RX Systems, Inc.
The Boeing Company
Thomson Printing
Vantage Homes

2004
Barnes-Jewish St. Peters Hospital
Baue Funeral Homes
Community News
GKN Aerospace
Hamilton Jewelers
McCarthy Building Company
MLS Homes, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kalinich
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Martinez
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald E. Daniels
Mr. and Mrs. James A. Braun
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Dolitsky
Raytheon Company
RX Systems, Inc.
T.R. Hughes, Inc.
The Boeing Company
Thomson Printing
Vantage Homes
Whittaker Builders, Inc.

2005
Ameristar Casino St. Charles
Barnes-Jewish St. Peters Hospital
Buck Consultants, an ACS Company
Community News
Corporate Group, Inc.
DRS Technologies
Gemini Homes
Hamilton Jewelers
Kellwood Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kalinich
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Martinez
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald E. Daniels
Mrs. Virginia Boschert
Mr. and Mrs. James A. Braun
RX Systems, Inc.
T.R. Hughes, Inc.
The Boeing Company
The Newberry Group
Thomson Printing
US Bank Private Client Group
Vantage Homes

2006
Ameristar Casino St. Charles
Barnes-Jewish St. Peters Hospital
Buck Consultants, an ACS Company
Community News
Culpeppers Restaurant
DRS Technologies
GSM Development
Hamilton Jewelers
HOK Group, Inc.
McCarthy Building Company
Mid Rivers News Magazine
MLS Homes, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kalinich
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Martinez
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald E. Daniels
Mrs. Virginia Boschert
Mr. and Mrs. James A. Braun
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schuette
RX Systems, Inc.
The Boeing Company
The Newberry Group
Thomson Printing
Towers Perrin
Vantage Homes

Thank you to those individuals and businesses (in bold) that have supported Youth In Need since the inauguration of this program. Please join this elite group of supporters as a Corporate Partner in 2008.