Programs Receive High Marks During Federal Review

Three Youth In Need service areas recently participated in triennial peer reviews, in which external teams reviewed programs to ensure compliance with regulations established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

During each review, teams spent days assessing case records, program documentation, Board of Directors’ records, policies and procedures, finances, personnel files, as well as observing classrooms, home visits and staff meetings. Each review session aims to determine whether or not the programs adhere to compliance standards that are required for continued funding.

The review process is designed to encourage program improvement and hold Youth In Need to highly regarded standards. In addition, by undergoing the federal review process, Youth In Need’s programs are able to acquire state and federal licensing and accreditation, which ensures families that the assistance and services they receive are of the highest quality.

Review Highlights:

- Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs: At the close of the May evaluation, the review team shared accolades with Youth In Need staff, saying the programs have many strengths, including a great and caring staff, a strong community presence in the programs and a strong philosophical evidence of the well-being of the programs. Runaway and homeless youth programs include the Emergency Shelter, Transitional Living Program and Street Outreach Program.

- St. Louis City Head Start: The St. Louis City Head Start Center frequently offers parents the opportunity to participate in activities with their children. The Center has held Mother’s and Father’s Day celebrations, special breakfasts and performances.

- Head Start West: The reviewers who evaluated Head Start West identified a few technical and policy recommendations, and praised staff for their excellent service to children and families in the classroom and homes as well as having a reputable Board of Directors and Policy Council to govern the program. The review team specifically cited the program’s “strength-based organizational culture.” Head Start West serves families in St. Charles, Lincoln, Warren and Montgomery Counties.

Give More, Pay Less!

Would you like to give more to Youth In Need, but don’t know if you can afford it? There is an easy way to make a sizeable donation and pay less in Missouri state taxes—a lot less.

For every gift of $100 or more, Youth In Need donors receive state tax credits equal to 50 percent of their donation. Let’s say, for example, that you make a $1,000 donation before the end of the year and owe the state $500 when you file your 2009 state income taxes. The $500 in tax credits from your donation would cover your tax bill! You would pay nothing and simply include your tax-credit letter with your tax return. If you were due a $500 state tax refund, with the same contribution, your refund would instead be $1,000.

There is also the potential for additional savings. You can claim the full amount of the gift as a charitable deduction on your state and federal income tax returns, and save even more by donating appreciated stock and avoiding capital gains. Or consider putting the gift on a credit card to take advantage of an incentive program like airline miles or cash-back.

Give for the first time or more than ever before. Tax credits allow donors to leverage the most out of their giving. The final out-of-pocket cost of your tax-credit donation can end up being pennies on the dollar, and Youth In Need still benefits from the full amount of the gift.

Charitable support is critical this year. In these tough economic times, Youth In Need is focused on maintaining vital programs to children, teens and families. We’ve seen a 30 percent spike in the number of children needing emergency shelter. Simultaneously, we face a $25,000 decrease in federal grant support for our runaway and homeless youth programs.

Anyone paying Missouri taxes can use these tax credits. Youth In Need is participating in two tax-credit programs, the Neighborhood Assistance Program and the Youth Opportunities Program, which means that all Missouri taxpayers—businesses and individuals—qualify.

It’s easy, too! Donate $100 or more (check, credit card or appreciated stock), and we’ll send you instructions on how to complete the tax-credit application form. Return the notarized form to Youth In Need along with the required proof of your donation, and we’ll forward it to the state. Within four to six weeks, you will receive a letter from the State of Missouri to include when filing your state income taxes.

To make a gift over the phone, call Rob Muschany, Vice President of Development and Marketing, at 314-757-9348, or contribute online at www.youthinneed.org.

Youth In Need Supports United Way Campaign

The United Way of Greater St. Louis is just beginning its 2009 fundraising campaign to support more than 180 health and human service agencies throughout the 16-county region surrounding and including St. Louis.

Youth In Need is a United Way-funded agency and receives approximately $300,000 in United Way funding. In addition, Youth In Need has received the United Way’s highest possible quality rating, and maintains high standards with the support of a wide variety of United Way resources.

United Way membership is critical to Youth In Need because it offers a dependable and guaranteed source of revenue. Youth In Need’s United Way allocation is used for general operations as well as to support the agency’s residential homes, counseling, teen parent programs, before- and after-school programs and homeless street outreach services.

“United Way helps our agency maintain a high level of service,” said Jim Braun, President and CEO. “With its support, we’re able to help even more people. We’re proud to be a United Way-member agency, and I encourage the community to support them as well.”

For more information, call the United Way at 314-421-0700.
Youth In Need held its 12th annual Golfing for Youth Benefit Tournament on Aug. 3, at Whittmoor Country Club in St. Charles.

Nearly 240 golfers turned out to tee it up for Youth In Need, raising more than $95,000 from sponsorships, auctions, specialty contests, golfing fees and text credit donations.

Tournament proceeds benefit Youth In Need's programs and services that provide crisis prevention and intervention services to more than 10,000 children, teens and families.

Youth In Need honors the 2009 Golfing for Youth Benefit Tournament Co-Chairs Larry Van de Riet (left), Youth In Need's former Senior Vice President of Finance, and Bob Kalnik, a Youth In Need Board member.

In addition, Youth In Need gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations that have purchased an engraved brick in the Monsanto Fund Science Discovery Garden at Youth In Need. Bricks purchased after July 31, 2009, will be recognized in the next issue of Youth Update. If you’d like to purchase an engraved brick, please contact Youth In Need’s Development Office at 636-757-9347.


golfers tee it up for youth in need
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Believing in the power of potential, Youth In Need’s vision is to provide nurturing educational and employment opportunities so children, youth and families will find safety, achieve their goals, and build a positive future.

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Diana Baumohl, James A. Braun, President & CEO, 2009 Board of Directors

About James A. Braun, Executive Management Team

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Dallas Roate, a firefighter for St. Charles Central County Fire and Rescue, is instrumental in the success of Youth In Need’s Holiday Drive. In 2008, he and his fellow firefighters raised more than $7,500 in toys, clothes and winter accessories for children.

Give our readers an overview of your involvement at Youth In Need.

We were introduced through the Safe Place program, by serving as Safe Place sites. The fire department has previously donated toys to programs like Toys for Tots, but some of those toys would go into storage before they actually reached the kids. So we began the Gifts for Kids program and looked for a local organization to donate to.

How many of the firefighters participate in donating to the Holiday Drive?

All six of our firehouses located in St. Charles County are involved, and I’m currently trying to get other fire departments and ambulance districts involved as well.

Why is it so important to donate to children and the programs that benefit them?

So many children are not currently receiving gifts during the holiday season. Economic strains prevent parents from being able to buy gifts for their children. By showing children that there are people out there to help them, they are able to grow in so many ways.

What’s the best aspect of volunteering your time to Youth In Need?

It’s knowing that the gifts guarantee a smile on the kids’ faces and the happiness that comes with a new toy that is just for them.

The generosity you, your business or organization shows will brighten the spirits and holiday season for thousands of deserving children and families. Thank you for supporting Youth In Need!

What? The holidays are just around the corner? It may seem early to start making your lists and checking them twice, but at Youth In Need, we are ready to begin the season of giving. Each year, our goal is to ensure that the neediest children and families we serve have a holiday worth remembering. Please join us in the spirit of the season and help us create memories that will last a lifetime.

Ways you can make the holidays brighter for kids and families:

• Adopt a Youth In Need Program. Donate new items that make a difference year-round at Youth In Need’s residential homes, Head Start classrooms or Street Outreach Drop-In Center.
• Collect new items from our “Holiday Wish List” below.
• Make a 100 percent tax-deductible contribution to help make this a memorable holiday season for children, teens and families served by Youth In Need.

The generosity you, your business or organization shows will brighten the spirits and holiday season for thousands of deserving children and families. Thank you for supporting Youth In Need!

For FAMILIES:
• Family games and movies
• Small household appliances
• Utility service gift certificates
• Blankets, sheets and pillows
• Gift cards (movie passes, gas, grocery stores, etc.)

For children, ages birth to 3 years:
• Warm clothing (pajamas, hats, jackets, etc.)
• Books and learning toys (ring-stackers, shape-sorters)
• Car seats
• Diapers, wipes, blankets, powder formula
• Bob the Builder toys and baby dolls

For BOYS, ages 3 to 5 years:
• Warm clothing (pajamas, hats, jackets, etc.)
• Matchbox cars and race tracks
• Games (Connect Four, Operation)
• Legos and puzzles
• Superhero figures (Spiderman, Batman, etc.)

For GIRLS, ages 3 to 5 years:
• Warm clothes (pajamas, hats, jackets, etc.)
• Tinkerbell and My Little Pony toys
• Disney Princess dress-up clothes
• Games (Candy Land, Chutes & Ladders)
• Dora the Explorer dolls and toys

For GIRLS, ages 6 to 12 years:
• Warm clothing (pajamas, hats, jackets, etc.)
• Hannah Montana toys and accessories
• Games (Blokas, Apples to Apples Junior)
• Age-appropriate DVDs and music CDs
• Jewelry-making and make-up kits

For BOYS, ages 6 to 12 years:
• Warm clothing (pajamas, hats, jackets, etc.)
• Remote control cars
• K’nex and Legos
• Sports equipment, games and posters
• Games (Battleship, Bop-It)

For BOYS, teenage/young adult:
• Warm clothing (pajamas, hats, jackets, etc.)
• DVDs and popular music CDs
• Personal MP3 players
• Sports equipment, games and posters
• Gift certificates (Wal-Mart, Target, Best Buy)

For GIRLS, teenage/young adult:
• Warm clothing (pajamas, hats, jackets, etc.)
• DVDs and popular music CDs
• Fashion purses and accessories
• Personal MP3 players
• Gift certificates (Target, Old Navy, Wal-Mart)

If you have questions or would like to sign up for the Holiday Drive, please contact Lucy Schuering, Community Relations Manager, at 636-757-9334 or lschuering@youthinneed.org.

2009 HOLIDAY WISH LIST

Members of the Cottleville Rotary display gifts of games for boys and girls of every age.

Patti Zang (left), Holiday Drive Coordinator at amdocs, shares gifts her company’s staff collected for Youth In Need’s children and families with Lucy Schuering, Youth In Need’s Community Relations Manager.

Present s piled high at Youth In Need before staff select gifts for children in their programs.

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Become a Children’s Partner in 2010

By enrolling as a Children’s Partner, you or your business will enjoy exclusive benefits, such as marketing recognition, tickets to Youth In Need’s 2010 special events and exposure to thousands of potential customers in St. Louis City and St. Louis, St. Charles, Lincoln, Warren and Montgomery Counties—all while making a valuable difference in our community.

A one-time gift at the $1,500, $3,000, $5,000, $10,000 or $15,000 level gains you entrance into this elite group of businesses and individuals who support Youth In Need’s mission throughout the year. In addition, Youth In Need offers exclusivity to one special Principal Children’s Partner at the $15,000 level each year. Don’t miss out on this prestigious opportunity!

For more information or to enroll as a 2010 Children’s Partner, call Alicia Rosier, Annual Fund Director, at 636-757-9346.

Principal Children’s Partner
Monsanto Gives Back

“Monsanto has been proud to help Youth In Need provide support to young people and their families throughout the St. Louis region. The need doesn’t go away when economic times are tough, and now more than ever families need to know they can count on the programs and services provided by agencies like Youth In Need.”

—Steve Mizell, Monsanto’s Executive Vice President of Human Resources and Youth In Need Board Member

2009 Children’s Partners Make a Difference

Youth In Need’s 2009 Children’s Partners raised more than $100,000 in support of the children, teens and families Youth In Need serves. Youth In Need gratefully acknowledges its 2009 Partners, who generously support the agency’s programs through its annual Celebration of Youth and Golfing for Youth benefits. Together, we believe in the power of potential.

Thank you to the following for your support:

**Principal Partner**

Monsanto

**Champion Partners**

Mary Beth & Jerry Daniels
Paul & Gena Middelho

**Guardian Partners**

Diane & Elise Ayres

**Trustee Partners**

Rx Systems, Inc.
The Susie Johnson O TEAM

**Patron Partners**

Pam & Jon Brown
Jennifer & Steve Barchen

**Patron Partners**

Ameren UE

The Scheidegger Family Youth In Need Center
1815 Boone’s Lick Road
St. Charles, MO 63301
24-Hour Help Line: 636-946-3771
www.youthinneed.org
636-946-5600

Monsanto's Executive Vice President of Human Resources and Youth In Need Board Member

Volunteer and Donor Recognition Reception
The Scheidegger Family Youth In Need Center
Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Youth In Need’s 2010 Events

Celebration of Youth
23rd Annual Dinner & Auction
Amistar Casino Resort Spa
Saturday, March 20, 2010

Trivia Night
7th Annual Battle of the Brains
St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church
Spring 2010

Golfing for Youth
13th Annual Benefit Tournament
Whitmoor Country Club
Monday, August 2, 2010

Look for future details about these events on Youth In Need’s Web site at www.youthinneed.org.

Address Service Requested