Youth In Need Selected to Assist Families with Young Children in Need

Youth In Need will be receiving $2.4 million in federal stimulus dollars to expand child development and family support services in St. Louis City and St. Charles, Lincoln, Warren and Montgomery Counties.

The agency will be adding 46 Head Start slots that serve families with children, ages 3 to 5; and 165 Early Head Start slots for families with children, ages birth to 3. The program expansion is a result of federal funding Youth In Need received as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. The agency received approximately 20 percent of the available funding in Missouri and is the only organization to receive both Head Start and Early Head Start expansion dollars in the greater St. Louis region.

“Students in Head Start and Early Head Start learn and develop important skills that not only help them succeed in school and improve their educational outcomes, but that also help the entire community,” said John S. Rothman, Youth In Need’s President and CEO. “Head Start and Early Head Start programs have been proven to bring an estimated return on investment of $7 for every dollar invested in the program. With this expansion, Youth In Need will be able to serve more than 1,000 new children and help our communities in many ways to grow and thrive.”

Young children attending Head Start in St. Louis City and St. Charles, Lincoln, Warren and Montgomery Counties will benefit from this federal funding. Youth In Need was one of the lucky groups to receive $4.6 million in funding under this federal program.

“Being able to serve more than 100 new families each year will have tremendous impact,” said Youth In Need’s President and CEO Jim Braun. “We are thrilled to meet these community needs.”

Youth In Need was also selected to expand these services that will benefit the region for years to come.”

Since 1974, Youth In Need has provided services for children and families in crisis, particularly runaway and homeless youth. In order to prevent crisis and strengthen families while children are young, Youth In Need expanded its services to include early childhood programs when it became a Head Start provider in 1998.

The national funding also funds improvements at current sites to accommodate the increase in enrollment.

Head Start and Early Head Start services are offered at no-cost to families who meet income eligibility.

Youth In Need will open 20 additional classrooms in Troy, Warrenton and Montgomery City, Mo. These communities will receive 16, 38 and 23 of the new slots respectively, while St. Charles County will receive 30 slots.

Head Start and Early Head Start students enjoy a turkey meal in celebration of Thanksgiving.

Youth In Need will continue to build on its community support by launching this expansion and will be looking to the community to continue to support the agency’s other programs for youth.

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Youth In Need is a 501(c)(3) organization and donations are tax deductible. For more information, visit www.youthinneed.org.

Youth In Need Gives Thanks at Annual Reception

Youth In Need recognized its outstanding donors and volunteers at its annual Thanks for Giving reception on Nov. 18 at The Scheidegger Family Youth In Need Center.

The event paid special recognition to several award honorees for their involvement throughout the agency. Guests enjoyed chips and salsa, courtesy of Chevy’s, homemade cookies and desserts from Youth In Need staff as well as a short photograph slide show, highlighting the year’s events.

Young, Youth In Need expanded its services to include early childhood programs when it became a Head Start provider in 1998.

The national funding also funds improvements at current sites to accommodate the increase in children who will be attending Youth In Need centers. Youth In Need will open additional center classrooms in Troy, Warrenton and Montgomery City, Mo. These communities will receive 16, 38 and 23 of the new slots respectively, while St. Charles County will receive 30 slots.

Youth In Need will continue to build on its community support by launching this expansion and will be looking to the community to continue to support the agency’s other programs for youth.

Head Start and Early Head Start services are offered in center-based or home-based programs. Center-based services assist working families or those attending school or a trade program by providing educational services in both full- and part-time classroom settings. Home-based services facilitate the involvement of family in meeting a child’s needs at home—their primary learning environment. Home visitors help parents enhance skills through weekly 90-minute meetings at home and two monthly group meetings so children can experience a classroom setting. Both options assist parents in finding health and dental care, employment, education and other services. Head Start and Early Head Start services are offered at no-cost to families who meet income eligibility.

According to research compiled by James Heckman, Nobel Prize-winning economist at the University of Chicago, the economic return on the investment in comprehensive early child and parent education to American society is high. Benefits include higher educational achievement, increased earnings, greater family stability and decreased welfare dependency.

“We have long known from our own outcomes that early child interventions build stronger families when children are young and lower the prevalence of crisis when children are in adolescence,” said Jim Braun, Youth In Need’s President and CEO. “We are proud to have been selected to expand these services that will benefit the region for years to come.”

Approximately $2.1 billion was available nationwide for expansion. A major portion of the funds were allocated for the Early Head Start program across the country to increase enrollment by 55,000 children. Currently, 600 programs serve 45,000 Early Head Start children nationwide; ARRA funding doubles the scope of services to families with children in this age range.
Memorials and Tributes
Youth In Need gratefully acknowledges the following memorials and tributes. Memorials and tribute gifts given after Dec. 1, 2009, will be recognized in the next issue of Youth Update. We regret any errors or omissions. If your name is in error, please contact Youth In Need’s Development Office at development@youthinneed.org.

Memorials
George Drackert
Geraldine and Joseph Kloeppel
Dr. Terry A. Fuller
Diane and Eliot Ayre
Laurie and Ray Birch
Rosemary and Dennis Bivens
Celia Buzzelli
Nancy Clemmons
Terrance Egan
Laurie and William Falk
Frontenac Bank
Ruth Fuller
Dr. Shari and Dr. Andrew Hamilton
Nancy Hammerman
John W. Hammond
Jennifer, Bob, Grace and Bobby Hardester
Hazelwood & Weber LLC
Patricia and Richard L. Hughes
Debra Fuller Hunter
Brenda and Russell Imbler Jr.
Lewis, Rice & Fingersh
Barbara and Robert Lindner
Glorian and John P. McGuire
Nicholas Milhau
Dr. Larry and Ellen Paskar
Kimberly Peter
Dr. Maureen and John Riffe
Phyllis Schucker
Dr. Thomas and Sandra Sheagren
W. Richard Shearer
Elizabeth and Robert Siemer III
Cheryl and Mark Sollari
Kiley and Burt Wall
The James Wieland Family
Eleanor Wright
Capt. Ray Kramme
Karen and Ron Sieve
John Mahon
Vickie Mahon
Charles F. Matson
YIN Development Department Ladies
F. Jane Matson
Dana Noonan
Bridget and Ron Brunnert Jr.
Kate Siesennop
Jennifer Steinmann
Gayle and John M. Schoenefelt

Tributes
Diane Hottelman’s Birthday
James Hottelman
Eliot Ayre
Lawrence Liebman

State Farm Tournament
Bags $30,000 for Youth In Need

State Farm Insurance held its fourth annual State Farm Insurance Charity Scramble to benefit Youth In Need on Monday, Oct. 5 at the Missouri Bluffs Golf Club. More than 100 golfers turned out to enjoy a sunny fall day of golf, followed by dinner, attendance prizes and a live auction. Golfers bid on sports packages and autographed memorabilia, including a St. Louis Cardinals Adam Wainwright jersey and Chris Carpenter baseball.

2009 Children’s Partners Make a Difference
Youth In Need relies on the community to deliver much-needed services. The Children’s Partnership Program is one way community members can reach out to Youth In Need and enjoy a few benefits.

Partnership levels range from $1,500 to $15,000 and include advertising and participation in both Youth In Need’s annual dinner and annual golf tournament.

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 Partner
Monsanto Corporation

Champion Partners
Mary Beth & Jerry Daniels
Paul & Gwin Middlekauff

Guardian Partners
Diane & Eliot Ayre

Trustee Partners
F. E. Systems, Inc.
The Susie Johnson Foundation
LaFarge Corporation

Patron Partners
Ameren UE

Visit www.youthinneed.org for more information about our programs and services.