



# COA Youth & Family Centers

*Serving Children • Strengthening Families • Building Community*

909 E. North Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53212 • 414-263-8383 • [www.coa-yfc.org](http://www.coa-yfc.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 9, 2014

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## **STEVE AND MELANIE BOOTH, RICK AND SUE STRAIT TO BE HONORED AS COA YOUTH & FAMILY CENTERS' PARENTS OF THE YEAR**

MILWAUKEE, WI – COA Youth & Family Centers will honor Steve and Melanie Booth and Rick and Sue Strait at the agency's 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Parents of the Year luncheon on Thursday, June 19th at the Italian Community Center, 631 East Chicago Street. The event reception begins at 11:30 a.m., with luncheon and program from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Each year at this event, COA recognizes two Milwaukee couples for their outstanding leadership in the community and their commitment to family. This year's luncheon is presented by Robert W. Baird & Co., Northwestern Mutual Foundation, and Stephen and Shelagh Roell. Proceeds support COA's continuum of educational, recreational, and social work programs.

"Our family-centered approach to program delivery is vital to COA's mission," said Tom Schneider, COA's Executive Director. "We strive to provide parents with the skills, tools, and confidence they need to raise children who are ready to succeed and reach their greatest potential." Schneider noted, "We are so honored to have the opportunity to recognize the Booths and the Straits as couples who exemplify what it means to be great parents."

Steve Booth is President & Chief Operating Officer and member of the boards of directors of Baird Financial Group and affiliated entities including Robert W. Baird & Co. Melanie Booth has served on the boards of Junior League, First Stage, Friends of the Milwaukee Public Museum, Tree of Life Pre-school, Junior Achievement Women's Association, and the Middle and Upper School Advisory Councils for University School of Milwaukee. Mary Ellen Stanek, Managing Director - Director of Asset Management at Robert W. Baird & Co., and Scott Stanek, D.D.S. are co-chairing the event on behalf of Steve and Melanie Booth.

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Booths and Straits honored

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Richard (Rick) A. Strait is a Managing Director of Private Equity Funds at Northwestern Mutual Capital, LLC. He is a long-time board member and officer of COA Youth & Family Centers. Sue Strait is a senior advisor on the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) Milwaukee Section Board, a partner and supporter of COA's Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) program. Ronald Miller, Managing Director at Cleary Gull and COA Youth Development Committee Co-Chair, and Susan Miller, Executive Committee Member of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation and Past President of the NCJW – Milwaukee Section, are co-chairing the event of behalf of Rick and Sue Strait.

Tables and ticket for Parents of the Year are available for purchase at [www.coa-yfc.org](http://www.coa-yfc.org) or by calling (414) 263-8383.

### **About COA Youth & Family Centers**

COA Youth & Family Centers helps Milwaukee children, teens, and families reach their greatest potential through a continuum of educational, recreational, and social work programs offered at its two urban community centers and rural camp facility. Founded in 1906, COA currently serves over 16,000 Milwaukee children and families at 17 locations citywide.

COA holds a four-star rating from Charity Navigator, a national evaluator of nonprofit organizations, and is among the one percent of the nation's charities that have received the highest 4-Star rating for nine consecutive years.

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