



Stephanie Regagnon

Government Affairs Specialist, Solutia Inc.

With more than a decade of work helping to shape government policy on sustainable energy and agriculture in Washington, D.C., and around the globe, Stephanie Regagnon has rubbed elbows with some influential and powerful people.

But it is her work with some of society's most overlooked individuals that is winning her praise.

Regagnon, 34, is the founder and executive director of Ava's Grace Scholarship Foundation, which is set to award its first round of \$5,000 scholarships to 10 children who have an incarcerated parent or primary care giver.

"There is no other program like it in Missouri or the nation," said Colleen Beckwith, health policy coordinator with the Missouri Foundation for Health.

Beckwith applauded Regagnon's work because, "education is the key to breaking the cycle of incarceration," she said.

The charity does not have any employees and has raised \$35,000 over the last two years and has commitments for an additional \$25,000, Regagnon said.

A majority of the donations so far have come from private donors, family foundations and corporate donation matches.

The inspiration for the scholarship came as the result of a personal tragedy that left her mother incarcerated.

During prison visits, Regagnon's eyes



were opened to the number of children whose parents are behind bars and cannot provide the support needed to make it to college.

"They have a lot of issues with discrimination and being judged because of their parents," Regagnon said. "I felt the need to focus on them because nobody else does."

Her philanthropic work, however, is not her only distinction.

In 2004, Regagnon was selected to participate in Missouri's Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow program where she spent two years learning about global agricultural practices and educating others about the importance of Missouri farms in the global food chain. She also is a past president of the St. Louis Agri-Business Club.

Regagnon said her work on agriculture policy was a perfect transition for her role at Solutia, because sustainable and renewable energy policy, from solar panels to wind farms to bio fuels, is as important to farmers as it is to business interests and environmentalists. Solutia had sales of \$1.95 billion in 2010.

"I'm really proud to work at a company that's so heavily invested in energy efficiency," she said.

Favorite sport: Football

-Amir Kurtovic

Kyle Lopez

Director, PriceWaterhouseCoopers

A great basketball team isn't defined by one superstar. Instead, great teams always have an intelligent point guard, a person who can set up the floor, direct teammates and find the right person in position to score. That's exactly how Kyle Lopez's coworkers describe him as the chief of staff to the U.S. Advisory Operations Leader at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

"He's the person who decides who gets the ball and distributes it in time," Brian Steiner, the company's chief financial officer for U.S. Advisory Practices, said. "He can say, this one needs to go to finance, this needs to go to HR and this needs to go to the attorney. He's very intelligent and very energetic, and he has what I define as an organization savvy."

Originally from El Paso, Texas, Lopez, 34, moved to St. Louis to attend St. Louis University on a golf scholarship. He graduated in 2000 with an undergraduate degree in business administration, and later received an MBA from Washington University.

He currently serves in a national role as director at PricewaterhouseCoopers in their U.S. Advisory Business that focuses on Consulting Deals and Forensics. Their U.S. Advisory busi-

ness has more than 7,500 professionals in the country and more than \$1.8 billion in annual revenue. He serves as the chief of staff to the U.S. Advisory Operations Leader, where he is responsible for all operations projects and, most recently, running the integration of a recently acquired global consulting business.

"I married a girl and it made sense to stay here," Lopez said. "I knew I was not going back to El Paso because it's a smaller town. It just made the most sense to stay close and connected to at least one of our families. It made more sense than the two of us moving to a city with no connections."

In 2009, Lopez joined the Wyman Center's Young Leaders Board and was involved in the planning of the organization's inaugural Orange Carpet Gala to raise funds for leadership classes and activities. Lopez was selected to serve on the Wyman board of trustees in April.

Lopez and his wife Heather were married in 2002 and now live in Brentwood with their sons, Brodie, 4 and Henry, 2.

Favorite sport: Golf

-Kris Wernowsky