

News Release

For Immediate Release

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On May 24, 40 of the Tri-State's Most Responsible & Caring Teens Will Be Presented YMCA Character Awards

May, 2010 -- They're fund raisers, organizers, mentors, athletes, scholars and humanitarians. They give of their time unselfishly to help others while wholeheartedly working to better themselves. They are leaders and role models, setting examples for younger generations. These are the qualities of the 40 YMCA Character Award recipients who will be honored May 24...outstanding teens diverse by backgrounds who share the values of caring, responsibility, honest and respect.

"On any given day there are stories of teens contributing in their own unique and positive way. The YMCA Character Awards were created to celebrate that compassion and leadership that is making a very meaningful impact," said Rebecca Kelley, YMCA district vice president.

The YMCA Character Awards Event, sponsored by Tom Gill Chevrolet, will begin at 6 p.m. at the 20th Century Theatre in Oakley on May 24. Educators, families, friends, coaches and community organizations positively impacted by the recipients will help the YMCA pay tribute to the group of young people with a common vision of improving their world through actions and words.

Honoree bios can be found at www.myy.org.

As the area's largest youth and family-focused not-for-profit, the YMCA reinforces character values through assets-based programs and services to more than 143,000 individuals, kids and families annually. Adult mentors encourage young people to be caring, responsible, respectful, and honest through sports, summer camps, structured child and afterschool care, and leadership building programs. Branches offer quality time for families, resources for parents, and a variety of opportunities for seniors to be active. The Membership for All sliding scale fee structure means everyone, no matter their ability to pay, can always benefit from the YMCA. Last year alone more than 17,400 families and individuals enjoyed healthier and happier lives because generous partners helped the YMCA in its vision to be accessible to all.

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