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## Media Advisory

### **Arapahoe County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award Program to grant scholarships to nine high school students April 9**

*Teens recognized for overcoming adversity, serving as positive role models in their communities*

**Littleton, Colo.** — The Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners and several local mayors and city council members will honor 31 high school students who have overcome significant personal adversity during the 2014 Arapahoe County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award Program April 9. The event begins at 6 p.m. at the Centennial Airport Mayo Aviation Building and Hangar, 7735 S. Peoria St., Englewood. Nine \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to students from among the 31 who were nominated.

The annual awards program honors and recognizes Arapahoe County youth who have risen to meet challenges while maintaining academic excellence and a positive attitude, and serving as role models for other teens. The teens have overcome situations such as living with economic hardship or a disability. They are nominated by school counselors, teachers, mentors and parents. This year's honorees attend one of 14 middle and high schools in Aurora, Englewood and Littleton.

Commissioner Nancy Jackson, a former professor who taught for many years at local colleges and at the Community College of Aurora, helped coordinate this year's event.

"These young people have learned how to set and keep their priorities focused despite enormous obstacles," Jackson said. "They've made positive behavior changes, set far-reaching and thoughtful goals, volunteered in their communities, worked part- or full-time while in school and still managed to excel academically. Their achievements and initiative speaks of their drive to succeed at whatever they try, including attending college. Our scholarship program helps make college possible for these deserving students."

Jackson will be joined by Commissioners Nancy Doty, Nancy Sharpe, Rod Bockenfeld and Bill Holen, along with mayors and city council members from communities within Arapahoe County to recognize these worthy teens.

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