

MEDIA ALERT

SEVEN MINNESOTA YOUTH HONORED FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Lt. Governor Carol Molnau discusses importance of youth leadership

Story Opportunity: Seven Minnesota youth will receive *Serve a Smile* Outstanding Youth Leadership Awards for their outstanding work throughout the community. **Lt. Governor Carol Molnau** will speak about Minnesota's youth leaders and be available for photographs with the award recipients from Bloomington, Robbinsdale, South St. Paul and White Bear Lake.

What: The Serve a Smile Youth Leadership Awards recognize outstanding efforts made by youth whose volunteer and service accomplishments are creating civic, humanitarian and educational programs and activities designed to improve and create more caring communities. Each award recipient receives a \$500 check to donate to the charity of his or her choice.

Who: **Bloomington: Laura Mellem, Dayna Fondell, Maggie Shields, and Latona Giwa**

- Created The Box City Vigil at the State Capital to raise awareness about homelessness; 200 volunteers participated and the money raised was donated to local homeless shelters

South St. Paul: Patrick Griffith

- As president of his high school's Key Club, Patrick spends extensive time volunteering at events throughout the community; he is an emerging leader who strives to make the community a better place

Robbinsdale: Dadeh Jallah

- Organized a group of peers to rid the Robbinsdale Park of cigarette butts; played an instrumental role in getting tobacco-free legislation passed in Robbinsdale; active in planning youth programs for the Mosaic Youth Center including AIDS prevention and youth homelessness programs

White Bear Lake: Jenessa Largent

- In order to personally thank the 200,000 deployed soldiers, Janessa began making and sending bracelets with a personal thank-you letter; because bracelets violated US military uniform policy, she traveled to Washington, D.C. and influenced the heads of state to change the policy

When: Monday, June 27, 2005
1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

Where: Office of the Governor
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
State Capital Room 130
St. Paul, MN 55155

Day-of contact: Ann Rogers, Delta Dental Plan of MN, (612) 325-1856

Alternate contact: Lisa Carlson, Delta Dental Plan of MN, (651) 994-5210