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Arizona Youth Distribute Funds to Local Community Organizations

More than \$8,000 given to community organizations

PHOENIX (May __, 2016) - Sixteen Arizona youth completed Valley Leadership Youth program on Tuesday, April 27, 2016 and distributed over \$8,000 to two different community organizations, Girls on the Run and the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN).

“Designed to empower youth to lead, our innovative and experiential Valley Leadership Youth program helps high school students gain a deep understanding of the significance of philanthropy,” said Christy Moore, Valley Leadership President & CEO, “Through time, talent and treasure, we cultivate change agents early in their leadership careers.”

The group of 16 participants represented seven different high schools around the state, and were aged between 15 and 17 years old. These youth not only have passion for Arizona and learning how they can support the community, they aspire to become leaders in their chosen careers. This program is designed to help them include philanthropy in any career path they choose.

In addition to introducing students to the basics of philanthropy, the program guides them through the grant making process—creating a request for proposals, collecting and reviewing proposals, and distributing funds. After careful review of 18 grant proposals and thoughtful deliberation, the students decided to grant funding awards to two community-benefit organizations that support girls and the LGBTQ community. The money was distributed at a grant ceremony held last month at the Valley Leadership Office.

The participants include:

Jazlin Angulo	Camelback High School
Isaac Davis	Keystone Online
Ethan Flatley	Arcadia High School
Nick Forney	Arcadia High School
Michael Gross	Mountain Pointe High School
Sophie Harris	Veritas Preparatory Academy
Caitlin Hartman	Arizona School for the Arts
Anika Joshi	BASIS Chandler
Abisade Onasanwo	Bio Science High School



Sarah O'Neal	Arizona School for the Arts
Vinayak Parthasarathy	Desert Vista
Kobe Pinney-Cofer	Paradise Valley High School
Evan Pittman	Phoenix Country Day School
Cedric Vicera	Basis Scottsdale
Keaten Wood	Herberger Young Scholars Academy

[Click here for photos.](#)

Valley Leadership Youth is a program of Valley Leadership, and is sponsored by Arizona Community Foundation (ACF) and Ellie & Michael Ziegler.

ABOUT VALLEY LEADERSHIP

As the Valley's premier leadership organization, Valley Leadership boasts a proven and long-standing track record of making deep impacts on the community.

Our roots date back to the late 1970s when a group of Valley visionaries recognized the need to identify and develop the next generation of leadership. Our founders imagined an annual succession of educated change agents dedicated to the best possible future for our region.

Almost 40 years later, this vision has produced nearly 3,000 alumni from Valley Leadership's multigenerational leadership programming. Through high quality education, unprecedented access and an innovative network, Valley Leadership goes beyond traditional leadership programs by empowering youth, high potential and proven leaders to advance their passions and accelerate their pursuits.