



NEWS RELEASE

Attention: Health or Education Editor

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\$200,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO YOUTH LEADERS IN PREGNANCY PREVENTION

SACRAMENTO—The Health Professions Education Foundation announced today its selections for the 2003-2004 Youth for Pregnancy Prevention-Leadership Recognition Program (YAPP-LRP). The Foundation awarded \$200,000 to eight youth from across the state.

The purpose of the program is to award scholarships to youth between the ages of 16 and 24 who have demonstrated leadership in promoting healthy adolescent sexuality and teen pregnancy prevention in their communities.

Each scholarship awardee will receive a \$25,000 scholarship (\$5,000 per year over five years). In return for the scholarship, each awardee must choose to study a discipline in the health professions. In addition, each awardee must practice his or her profession in a medically underserved area of California after graduation.

The scholarship awardees addressed teen pregnancy issues by attending forums and working with local governments and schools. Through their peer counseling work, they helped youth get through serious medical and emotional issues. Sometimes these youth leaders are the only people their peers can talk to about making healthy and responsible choices.

The next application deadline is **November 4, 2004**. Please contact the Foundation's office at (800) 773-1669 or (916) 324-6500 with questions about the program.

The Health Professions Education Foundation is a nonprofit, public benefit corporation administered through the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD). It was established to provide scholarships and loan repayment grants to health professional students throughout California who are willing to practice in underserved areas. The Foundation's mission is to improve access to healthcare in rural and urban underserved areas. Since 1990, the Foundation has awarded nearly \$9.4 million in scholarships and loan repayment grants to over 1,500 health professional students and graduates.

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