



Department of Human Assistance
Paul G. Lake, Director

News Release

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Contact: Cynthia Aguilar
Aguilarc@sacounty.net
(916) 874-2325 office
(916) 995-8365 mobile

Local High School Grads Head to College with a Little Help from Sacramento County Employees

14th annual scholarship program awards \$12,500 this year

Sacramento, CA – With friends and relatives looking on with pride, 25 college-bound high school seniors will each receive a scholarship check for \$500 during a special ceremony on Friday, May 17. The event will take place in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 700 H Street, 1st floor, starting at 6:00 p.m.

The annual college scholarship program, co-sponsored by the nonprofit People and Resources Together (PART), the County's Department of Human Assistance (DHA), Health and Human Services (DHHS), and several employee advisory groups, will award a total of \$12,500 this year.

The DHA Scholarship Program, now in its 14th year, was created to assist local graduating seniors from low-income families pursue a two- or four-year education in any field of study at an accredited college, university, technical or trade school. Since the program's inception in 2000, more than 400 students from area high schools have received scholarships totaling over \$200,000 to help finance their continuing education.

The program is supported solely by the personal generosity of County employees and several cultural advisory groups: Asian and Pacific Islander Caucus, African-American Caucus, Latino Caucus, Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Caucus, and Native American Caucus, in coordination with PART. Scholarship monies are collected from various fundraising activities held throughout the year - no public dollars are used. Four scholarships are provided by current and former employees.

Eligibility is based on earned income tax credit limits and the 200 percent federal poverty guidelines without regard to race, gender, ethnicity, religion, or political affiliation. The student must have a minimum cumulative grade point average (G.P.A.) of 2.5. For more information about the scholarship program, contact Cynthia Aguilar at (916) 874-2325.

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2433 Marconi Avenue ♦ Sacramento, CA 95821 ♦ phone (916) 875-3601 ♦ www.dha.sacounty.net