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RECRUITMENT FOR 2016-17 ANTHEM YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL BEGINS APRIL 25

Anthem, Ariz. – An old adage says it takes a village to raise a child, but through the past two years, members of the Anthem Youth Advisory Council (AYAC) have demonstrated that the advantages of a positive community-youth relationship are mutually beneficial. Launched in 2014 as an initiative of the Anthem Community Council Board of Directors, AYAC allows youth entering grades 7-12 to serve their community, develop leadership skills and become a voice for Anthem’s younger population.

Recruitment for the 2016-17 AYAC term begins April 25. Application packets will be provided to area schools and others connected with youth, as well as posted at OnlineAtAnthem.com. Members of AYAC represent all area schools and the home-school community. Interested youth must complete an application and submit responses to a set of essay questions. Youth will then interview with a panel of advisers composed of ACC Board members and staff and community members. Thirteen students, who are Anthem residents, will be selected to serve.

“Over the past two years, we have worked alongside some truly amazing students who represent our community well and wear the AYAC banner with a great deal of pride,” said Jenna Kohl. “These youth represent a cross-section of their demographic and excel in their respective areas of focus, whether that is sports, education or service. We look forward to continuing to work with more students on serving the community and developing life skills that will carry them into their future as leaders in Anthem and beyond.”

Interested youth and their parents are invited to an informational session at 5:30 p.m. May 4 at the Anthem Civic Building. AYAC advisers and current members will discuss the group and the application process, including an emphasis on each element of the application packet.

“Last year, we had great candidates who missed out on the opportunity to interview because their application was incomplete,” Kohl said. “We hope this event will enable those who are interested to understand the importance of each step of the process and to educate them on expectations of AYAC members.”

In previous years, AYAC recruitment has been conducted in the fall. This year, the spring application period will allow for members to participate in team-building activities over the summer before launching into full operation when the new school year resumes. New members will be officially seated at the June 22 ACC Board of Directors meeting. Their terms will run until May 2017.

For more information about AYAC, visit OnlineAtAnthem.com/AYAC or contact Jenna Kohl at 623-752-6064 or jkohl@anthemcouncil.com.

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Anthem, Arizona is a master planned community located in Maricopa County, Arizona. The Anthem Community Council, Inc. serves as a unifying entity for the Anthem community. The mission of the Council is to establish and maintain a governing structure which will preserve, protect and enhance the plans, policies, infrastructure and resources needed to support a sense of community, ensure sound economic development and promote a quality of life for all Anthem residents.