

CCA Hosts Winners in Camp Anytown Scholarship Contest

Staff reports, Eloy Enterprise August 16, 2007

Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) has recently sent three Pinal County high school students to a leadership development camp. CCA's Anytown Scholarship was established this year to encourage leadership skills among area teens.

The scholarship was extended to one student from Florence and two students from Eloy. The students received camp tuition, room and board, as well as transportation to and from the camp.

Scholarship winners were selected by the school administrators from Florence High School and Santa Cruz Valley Union High School. All three of the students are active in student government and participate in after-school activities.

"Anytown has an extraordinary mission, and we believe in providing a strong foundation for the next generation," said Mark Brnovich, government relations director for CCA on the West Coast. "As one of the largest employers in Pinal County, it is vital for us to invest in our host communities."

Camp Anytown specializes in programs that enhance trust, mutual understanding, and respect among diverse individuals; develop appreciation of diversity; and build citizenship, personal responsibility, and leadership abilities. The Prescott-area camp has taught various youth development and leadership programs since 1957, and in that period, hosted more than 30,000 Arizona teens. Anytown also features programs that increase self-esteem and improve conflict resolution skills. Scholarships are awarded based on academic performance and personal merit.

"I want to learn how to help our school with some of the issues we have," said Dalice Davis, a junior from Florence High School. "As a member of the student government, I am always looking for ways to get other students involved in school activities."

"This is a good opportunity for me to learn more leadership skills and meet new people," said Joshua Lujan, freshman from Santa Cruz Valley Union High School.



Submitted photos Santa Cruz high school students Erika Cade and Joshua Lujan were chosen to participate in this year's Camp Anytown to sharpen leadership skills this summer.

Scholarships were awarded to the following Pinal County students:

- * Dalice Davis, Jr., Florence High School
- * Erika Cade, Fr., Santa Cruz Valley Union High School
- * Joshua Lujan, Fr., Santa Cruz Valley Union High School

Corrections Corporation of America, the largest prison provider in the United States, operates 64 facilities across the country, manages revenues of \$1.2 billion and oversees more than 70,000 inmates.

CCA has a long and productive relationship with Arizona, both in local communities and the state. CCA operates four facilities in Pinal County that employ 1,700 people, generating \$71 million in payroll and \$4.8 million in tax revenues. CCA is one of the top 100 employers in the state and plans to expand operations in Pinal County with a fifth facility. CCA also provides beds to more than 1,000 Arizona inmates at a correctional center in Watonga, Okla.

©Casa Grande Valley Newspapers Inc. 2007