

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CAMP FIRE USA CONFERS HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT TO YOUTH LEADERS

Seattle, Wash – Leadership, teaching, service and advocacy. That's how thousands of teens across the country spend hours and hours each week as they work toward the Wohelo Award, the highest achievement in Camp Fire USA, one of the nation's leading youth development organizations.



Sarah Taylor of the Central Puget Sound Council has successfully completed the requirements for Camp Fire USA's highest honor. Earning her Wohelo Award was a rich learning experience for Sarah. She played an active leadership role in several East Area council events, including Council Fires, Salute to Hospitalized Veterans and the Camp Fire Birthday Party. At Hans Jensen Day Camp Sarah fostered camp traditions by teaching songs and games. Her service for the Council and Day Camp sought to increase youth participation by both expanding the variety of activities to appeal to a greater number of existing members, as well as by working to recruit new members for Camp Fire. Sarah also advocated on behalf of animal welfare through her service to King County Animal Control and the Humane Society. Sarah is currently a senior at Interlake High School and plans to attend Bellevue Community College after graduation.

According to Sarah, "I have learned so much, made lots of friends and had many wonderful experiences because of Camp Fire."

The Wohelo Award provides an intensive, individualized experience requiring recipients to plan, lead, teach, take action, and advocate for three service causes, utilize adult experts, and evaluate their projects at the conclusion. This award helps foster key developmental assets in youth, such as service to others, constructive use of time, planning, decision-making, and self-esteem. The word Wohelo comes from the first two letters of the words work, health and love. In 1910, Wohelo was coined as the organization's watchword. Each year, approximately 200 youth nationally receive this prestigious award. The Wohelo Award allows Camp Fire USA to serve its mission of building caring, confident youth and future leaders.

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Camp Fire USA provides all-inclusive, co-educational youth development nationwide. Founded in 1910, with national headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri, Camp Fire USA's mission is to build caring, confident youth and future leaders. By design, Camp Fire USA's programs include family and small group experiences, after school programs, camping and environmental education, child care and service learning. The Camp Fire USA experience builds confidence in younger children and provides hands-on, youth-driven leadership experiences for older youth. The Central Puget Sound Council serves King, Kitsap and North Mason counties. For more information, visit www.campfire-usa.org.

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