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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Camrae McManaman Named State Youth of the Year of the Boys & Girls Clubs Arizona Alliance

Peoria High School Junior awarded Arizona Clubs' highest honor

(Phoenix, AZ April 1, 2014)— Peoria High School Junior Camrae McManaman was named 2014 State Youth of the Year by the Boys & Girls Clubs Arizona Alliance. Camrae's outstanding leadership, commitment to sports and the arts, and compassion for her community inspired state legislators, elected officials and business leaders at the 13th Annual Arizona Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs Legislative Breakfast on Tuesday, April 1st.

At the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Phoenix, Camrae blossomed into a strong leader who cares deeply for helping others. "Community service is important to me because there are so many things that need to be done in my community," she says. "I feel like the only way to get it done is just to step up and do it."

Camrae has "stepped up" for the Special Olympics, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Phoenix, the Pat Tillman Run, and St. Mary's Food Bank. She helped a nursing home clean up their art room, and she now leads art classes there. She volunteers as a coach and mentor for baseball, volleyball and flag football, as well as serving as an athletic trainer for her school's football and wrestling teams. This year, she has volunteered over 645 hours.

"The Peoria Boys & Girls Club is my second home and my second chance. I have no doubts that it saved my life. It gave me a safe place and an environment where I could grow."

Camrae is in the top 10% of her class and a writer for her school newspaper. She plans to attend Barrett Honors College at ASU, and to someday attend dental school. She will be the first in her family to graduate college.

Camrae now advances to the regional Youth of the Year competition.

About the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metropolitan Phoenix

Since 1946, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Phoenix has empowered all youth—especially those who need us most—to reach their full potential as caring, productive, responsible citizens. Each year, 23,000 youth benefit from our life-changing after-school programs and services at 12 Clubhouses, outreach programs in local schools, and Parsons Dental Clinic. Visit www.bgcmp.org for more information.

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