



2025 Alaska Communications' Summer of Heroes

PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND FAQ

Now in its 15th year, Alaska Communications' Summer of Heroes is a partnership program between [Alaska Communications](#) and [Boys & Girls Clubs of Southcentral Alaska](#) to promote awareness and support for youth development programs throughout the state. Running May 5 through June 13, 2025, Summer of Heroes includes two main components: a youth recognition program and cause-related sales promotion targeting both businesses and consumers. Summer of Heroes events raise awareness for Boys and Girls Clubs of Southcentral Alaska and engage Alaskans in a meaningful way.

From its roots as a local telephone company, to becoming the state's leading provider of broadband and managed IT services, Alaska Communications is committed to the local communities where its people live and work. The company recognizes investing in youth and their futures is critical to building local communities that are positive, healthy places to live. That's why youth and education—including leadership and learning opportunities, promoting positive environments to learn and grow, and access to technology—are the core focuses of Alaska Communications' commitment to responsible corporate citizenship.

YOUTH RECOGNITION PROGRAM

What is the Summer of Heroes youth recognition program?

Studies show youth who are engaged in community service tend to do better in school, avoid risky behaviors, and maintain positive relationships with adults and peers. Through Summer of Heroes, Alaska Communications is partnering with Boys & Girls Clubs of Southcentral Alaska to recognize five outstanding young heroes, plus one hero from the Employee Program, who are making a difference in their local Alaska communities.

What defines a hero?

A hero can be any Alaska resident between the ages of 6 and 18 who is making a positive difference in his or her community. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following types of efforts:

- Volunteering or raising funds for a cause,
- Making a difference in school through education or sports,
- Making a significant contribution to his or her community,
- Considering others' needs before their own, or
- Inspiring others to take action.

We want to hear about young people who have made their Alaska community better.

How and when will the heroes be recognized?

Alaska Communications and Boys & Girls Clubs of Southcentral Alaska will select five outstanding local heroes based on their nomination forms and short answer questions. The heroes will receive:

- a \$2,000 scholarship through the Alaska 529 college savings plan*, and
- special recognition in their local community.

If the youth chooses not to receive the scholarship, a donation to a community non-profit may be made in lieu of the scholarship, at the sponsor's direction.

What are the criteria for nominating a youth for the Summer of Heroes program?

Any youth who meet the above criteria can self-nominate or be nominated by someone they know. The winners will not be selected based on school grades, but rather the positive impact the youth makes on the community and those around them. The nominator could be a parent, guardian, sibling, teacher, coach, mentor, friend or anyone who has a relationship with the child and believes they should be recognized as a local hero.

How do I nominate someone for the Summer of Heroes program?

Starting May 5, nominations can be submitted one of the following two ways:

1. **Online nomination form:** Visit the [Summer of Heroes website](http://www.alaskacommunications.com/summerofheroes) (www.alaskacommunications.com/summerofheroes) and follow the instructions for completing and submitting the nomination form.
2. **Hardcopy nomination form:** Obtain a hardcopy nomination form from any [Boys & Girls Clubs of Southcentral Alaska clubhouse](#) or by downloading the PDF from the [Summer of Heroes website](#). Complete the form and submit it in-person at a Boys & Girls Clubs of Southcentral Alaska clubhouse or via email to SummerofHeroes@alaskacommunications.com.

All nominations must be received **by 5 p.m. AKDT on June 13, 2025**.

Can I nominate a youth related to an Alaska Communications employee?

Yes. Alaska Communications recognizes one additional youth hero through its Summer of Heroes Employee Program. The internal Employee Program is separate from the external Summer of Heroes program, and only Alaska Communications employee family members are eligible for this single \$2,000 scholarship and recognition.

Participants who would like to nominate a child or grandchild of an Alaska Communications employee must complete the Summer of Heroes nomination form and fill out the special section for the Employee Program. Employee Program nominations should be submitted via the online form or by email to EmployeeHeroes@acsalaska.com by 5 p.m. AKDT on June 13.

Alaska Communications will recognize the selected Employee Program youth hero with a \$2,000 scholarship and local recognition in the hero's community.

See official rules for full details, available at www.alaskacommunications.com/summerofheroes.

What is the timeline for the Summer of Heroes youth recognition program?

May 5	Nomination period opens. Forms are available online and at Boys & Girls Clubs of Southcentral Alaska locations .
June 13	Nomination period closes. Completed forms must be submitted online or in person by 5 p.m.
July	Judging panel reviews nominations and selects 2025 youth heroes
July/August	Heroes are recognized during a special celebration in their local community. Date is dependent on local schedule.
September	Alaska Communications presents donation to Boys and Girls Clubs of Southcentral Alaska

Where can I find more information about the Summer of Heroes program?

For more information, please visit www.alaskacommunications.com/summerofheroes or any Boys & Girls Club of Southcentral Alaska clubhouse. Stay up-to-date on Summer of Heroes initiatives and events by connecting with Alaska Communications on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



SALES PROMOTION TO SUPPORT YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

How can I participate to help support Boys & Girls Clubs of Southcentral Alaska?

Alaska Communications recognizes that youth education and development programs, such as the programs provided by Boys & Girls Clubs, are critical to helping children succeed in life. During the Summer of Heroes, Alaska Communications will contribute \$25 to Boys & Girls Clubs of Southcentral Alaska for every new Unlimited or Business Internet connection established between May 5 and June 13, 2025, up to \$15,000 total. This donation will help support Boys & Girls Clubs of Southcentral Alaska's programs and expand the organization's capacity to positively impact the lives of young people in Alaska.

Alaskans can also make individual or business donations directly to Boys & Girls Clubs of Southcentral Alaska by visiting www.alaskacom munications.com/summerofheroes.

Where can I find more information about the Summer of Heroes promotion?

For more information, please visit www.alaskacom munications.com/summerofheroes.

About Alaska Communications

Alaska Communications is the state's leading provider of broadband and managed IT services in the state. The company operates a highly reliable, advanced statewide data network with the latest technology and the most diverse undersea fiber optic system connecting Alaska to the contiguous U.S.

Alaska Communications in the Community

Alaska Communications started as a local telephone company and today is Alaska's leading provider of broadband and managed IT services. As part of its ongoing commitment to the communities it serves, Alaska Communications engages in activities and programs to support causes that are most important to its employees and customers – youth education and development. Through cash and in-kind donations, employee volunteers, and community involvement programs, the company strives to improve the quality of life for all Alaskans.

More information can be found on the company's website at www.alaskacom munications.com.

2024 HEROES

Emily Brubaker is a 13-year-old from Anchorage whose advocacy is changing lives right here in Alaska. Emily saw a need and took action, speaking directly with Alaska's congressional leaders to push legislation requiring insurance companies to cover treatments for congenital anomalies. Her courage and persistence have inspired real policy conversations and meaningful change for families across the state.

After an injury took her out of her competitive sports season, high school student **Maya Carlson** didn't step back—she stepped forward. She embraced a new role as a team manager, attending every early-morning practice, organizing events and becoming her teammates' biggest supporter. Maya turned personal adversity into selfless leadership.

Sara DeVold believes creativity changes communities—and she has proven it by raising more than \$400,000 for Alaska nonprofits through wearable art. Combining science, technology and art, Sara dedicated more than 850 hours crafting unique designs auctioned to benefit local causes. Her passion is making a tangible difference in the lives of Alaskans and especially in her hometown of Soldotna.

Jillian Dolph lives by a powerful principle: Treat others the way you'd like to be treated. At just 16-years-old, Jillian champions meaningful causes, invests deeply in her community, and consistently lifts others to success. Her actions embody what it truly means to be a young Alaskan hero.

Fernando Escobar demonstrates true leadership as a judge with Kodiak Teen Court, thoughtfully guiding peers through challenging circumstances. As an 18-year-old, he balances empathy and accountability, offering second chances and promoting fairness that transforms young lives.



Grace Hurley is a 17-year-old from Kodiak. She's is making an impact in her community by doing the little things that can often get overlooked. Volunteering with her church's Special Friends group, Grace dedicates her time to sharing meals, playing games and supporting both children and adults through study help and conversation. She's also learning American Sign Language and graphic design to better serve special needs communities. Her commitment to service is an inspiring example of how one young person can foster inclusion and make a difference.

Gunnar Sudsbury-Giuchici is a 12-year-old from Fairbanks with a heart as big as Alaska. Every year on his birthday, Gunnar donates his birthday money to his community's animal shelter—raising several thousand dollars to help animals in need. His commitment to giving back is making his community a better place.

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