



2021 Alaska Communications Summer of Heroes

PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND FAQ

Now in its 11th year, Alaska Communications' Summer of Heroes is a partnership program between [Alaska Communications](#) and [Boys & Girls Clubs – Alaska](#) to promote awareness and support for youth development programs throughout the state. Running mid-May through July 2 2021, 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 - Alaska and engage Alaskans in a meaningful way. Through the pandemic, Boys & Girls Clubs throughout Alaska are continuing to serve youth in non-traditional methods and they could use our support now, more than ever.

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 – 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.

Whether it's to support others during the pandemic or an ongoing effort to support the community, 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 – Alaska will select five outstanding local heroes based on their nomination forms and short answer questions. The heroes will receive:

- a \$1,500 scholarship through the Alaska 529 college savings plan, and
- special recognition in their local community.*

*2021 recognitions may be impacted by COVID-19. Alaska Communications will follow state and local guidelines.



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 10, nominations can be submitted one of the following two ways:

1. **Online nomination form:** Visit the [Summer of Heroes website \(www.alaskacommunications.com/summerofheroes\)](http://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 – 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 – Alaska Clubhouse or via email to SummerofHeroes@alaskacommunications.com.

All nominations must be received **by 11:59 p.m. AKDT on July 2.**

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 \$1,500 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 11:59 p.m. AKDT on July 2.

Alaska Communications will recognize the selected Employee Program youth hero with a \$1,500 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 10	Nomination period opens. Forms are available online and at Boys & Girls Clubs – Alaska locations .
July 2	Nomination period closes. Completed forms must be submitted online or in person by 11:59 p.m.
July 3-31	Judging panel reviews nominations and selects 2021 youth heroes
August/September	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 – 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 – Alaska Clubhouse. Stay up-to-date on Summer of Heroes initiatives and events by connecting with Alaska Communications on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#).

SALES PROMOTION TO SUPPORT YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

How can I participate to help support Boys & Girls Clubs – 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 – Alaska for every new Unlimited or Business Internet connection established between May 10 and July 2, 2021, up to \$15,000 total. This donation will help support Boys & Girls Clubs – 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 – Alaska by visiting www.alaskacommunications.com/summerofheroes.

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

For more information, please visit www.alaskacommunications.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.alaskacommunications.com.

2020 HEROES

Asya Gipson

Asya is known for supporting her peers and volunteering to help others every chance she gets. She supports several school clubs, promotes anti-racism activism, mentors youth, makes masks to those in need and more. She plans to be a first-generation college student to advocate for those who may not be able to speak up for themselves or those who face roadblocks in life.

Joy Martin

Joy has a heart for the homeless and invests many hours each week on the front line, not only to serve them but also to connect with them. When life has them down, Joy helps the homeless see the value in themselves.

Rosalie Cortes

Through Rosalie's volunteerism, she empowers others to persevere through life's challenges, never give up and keep working toward their goals.



Emily (Ted) Tedrick

As an Anchorage Youth Court judge, Ted has spent hundreds of hours advocating for peers who have committed minor offenses. Ted's leadership helped launch a peer mentorship program that helps new youth advocates make friends in the volunteer community and learn how to advocate for others.

Trevor Morgan

On May 28, 2020, Trevor was the first person on scene when a plane crashed in the water near his village of Aniak. In true heroic fashion, he and his friends rushed to help the injured and emergency responders.

Alaska Communications also recognizes the heroic efforts of four other youth who joined Trevor immediately following the plane crash. A donation is being made to the Aniak Public Library in their honor.

Zoe Nelles

Zoe has an incredible ability to look at situations, discussions and real-world problems with an open mind and heart. She's a natural teacher and mentor, a valued member of National Honor Society, and regularly provides service to her community.

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