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Contact: Rosemary Blackmon, Alabama Hospital Association, (800) 489-2542

Local Volunteer Honored with State Award

At the recent fall conference of the Alabama Council of Hospital Auxiliaries, Kaleb Estes, a volunteer at Decatur General Hospital, Decatur, was named the Alabama Hospital Association's 2009 Outstanding Teenage Volunteer. The award is presented to someone who has demonstrated exceptional commitment to hospitals and the patients they serve.

"Kaleb is described as someone whose volunteer efforts go far beyond counting hours," said Glenn C. Sisk, chairman of the Alabama Hospital Association and presenter of the 2009 Award. "He has a love for his community and a devotion to community service rarely seen so early in life."

Estes has been volunteering in his community since the seventh grade. He served as an officer with the Volunteer Center of Morgan County and successfully completed the Points of Light Youth Leadership Course, with a total of 1,500 community volunteer hours.

Estes was also a National Merit Finalist, valedictorian of his graduating class, and president of many student organizations. Now a freshman in college, Estes hopes to pursue a career in medicine.

The Alabama Council of Hospital Auxiliaries is an affiliate of the Alabama Hospital Association, a state trade organization which supports hospitals in providing quality health care to their communities.