

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Children's Board of Hillsborough County

### ***Three Students Honored at Children's Board of Hillsborough County's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration***

**Tampa, FL** – On Thursday, April 17th, the Children's Board of Hillsborough County held a 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration to commemorate two decades of serving children and families. The evening – attended by Hillsborough County's top child advocates – included an Awards Ceremony highlighting various "Heroes for Hillsborough's Children." **One such honor, The Youth Leadership Award, was given to three Bay Area high school students:**

- **Christian Nuñez, Senior, Freedom High**

Christian is an outstanding young woman who is active in service to her community. She is active in the General federation of Women's Clubs through the Little Women of Lutz and in the Florida Junior Women's Club where she is now the State Leadership Chair. In 2007, Christian was a member of the Mayor's Youth Corp and this year she is part of the Leadership Council for the Mayor's Youth Corp. Christian was one of three youth who prepared a youth statement for the successful application for our city to be designated as one of the "100 Best Places for Young People" by America's Promise.



*(from left to right)*

Christian Nuñez receives Youth Leadership Award from Dr. Luanne Panacek, C.E.O. of the Children's Board and Valerie Hubbard-Goddard, Board Chair.

*continued*

- **Manuela Muñoz Alvarez, Senior, Plant High**

Manuela is a passionate young woman who believes in service, hard work, discipline and values diversity. She has completed an amazing 700 hours of documented community service through her community activities. She is a long-time member of Community Tampa Bay where she began as a Camp Anytown participant in 2005, and returned to volunteer in 2006 and 2007. She is a member of the Camp Anytown Advisory Board and Hillsborough Youth Action Collaborative. Manuela was also a member of the 2006 class of the Mayor's Youth Corp.

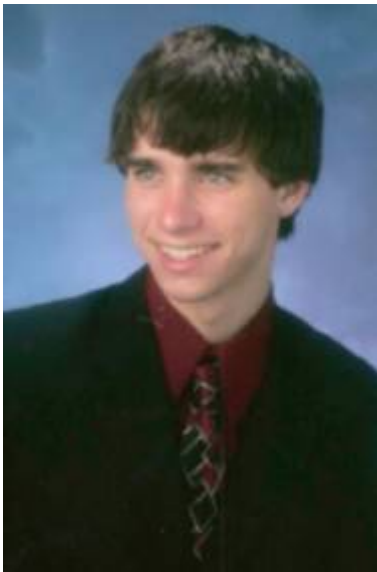


*(pictured left)*

Manuela Muñoz Alvarez receives Children's Board's Youth Leadership Award

- **Ryan Carter, Senior, Tampa Catholic**

This young man co-founded Crusaders 4 Community at Tampa Catholic. The vision is "an inclusive and just community which fosters dignity and respect for each individual." At Tampa Catholic, Ryan is also active in the Junior Statesman program overseeing the local delegation in Washington D.C. He is also a Student Ambassador and selected to attend the Florida Spanish Conference.



*(pictured left)*

Ryan Carter, Senior, Tampa Catholic

"Our Youth Leadership Award recognizes and honors the active commitment and leadership these students have shown," said Dr. Luanne Panacek, C.E.O. of the Children's Board.

**Interviews with any of these students can be arranged by calling Carolyn Eastman at 813-531-0502 or Rick Lence at 813-476-9537.**

Your Children's Board is the lead county agency that promotes the health, safety and well being of our community's children and families. Supported by dedicated property tax revenue, the Board funds more than 180 programs offering critical prevention and early intervention services to Hillsborough County families. In the last decade, the Board has invested \$34 million of taxpayer dollars to generate \$201

million new dollars into our community. That's a return on investment of almost \$6 for every dollar directly benefiting children and families. The Children's Board is recognized nationally for its contributions to best practices in policies and programs aiding children and families.

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