

MEDIA RELEASE

Phone (204) 477-5360 Fax (204) 453-6198 Web www.UnitedWayWinnipeg.mb.ca



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UNITED WAY RECOGNIZES STUDENTS COMMITTED TO OUR COMMUNITY

They've given up countless hours of their time and made a real impact in our community. Now, four young Winnipeggers are being recognized by United Way of Winnipeg for their efforts to help create opportunities for a better life for everyone. The students have been awarded United Way's Youth Leaders in Action Scholarship. The scholarships are designed to recognize and encourage the contributions of young leaders in Winnipeg.

"One thing United Way focuses on is helping youth achieve their potential," said Raji Kaler, a volunteer on United Way's Youth Relations Council. "These scholarships not only help students further their education, they recognize volunteers for their commitment to making Winnipeg a better place."

This year United Way has awarded scholarships of \$500 to four young people who are connected to a United Way agency partner. Amber Sinclair is one of this year's recipients for the encouragement she has shown her peers as a youth mentor at Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc. Benisia Whenzle and Kimberly Chambers are both full time students who volunteer at the YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg. The fourth recipient, Rebecca Hutchings, volunteers as a Literacy tutor at United Way agency partner, John Howard Society of Manitoba.

"The most gratifying aspect of volunteering comes from working with students and seeing their potential and their successes, and seeing the impact that has on their self-esteem," said Hutchings. "It has been a truly rewarding and eye-opening experience."

To succeed in school and in life, children need role models and the skills to help them through to graduation. That's why United Way supports mentorship and after-school programs that give children and youth the self-esteem and confidence they need to become engaged and productive adults.

United Way would like to congratulate this year's Youth Leaders in Action Scholarship recipients. They are not only role models, but leaders in our community.

For more information please contact:

Kate Taylor
Manager, Media Relations and Communications
United Way of Winnipeg
Phone 477-5360 (office) | 612-8965 (cell) | ktaylor@UnitedWayWinnipeg.mb.ca