

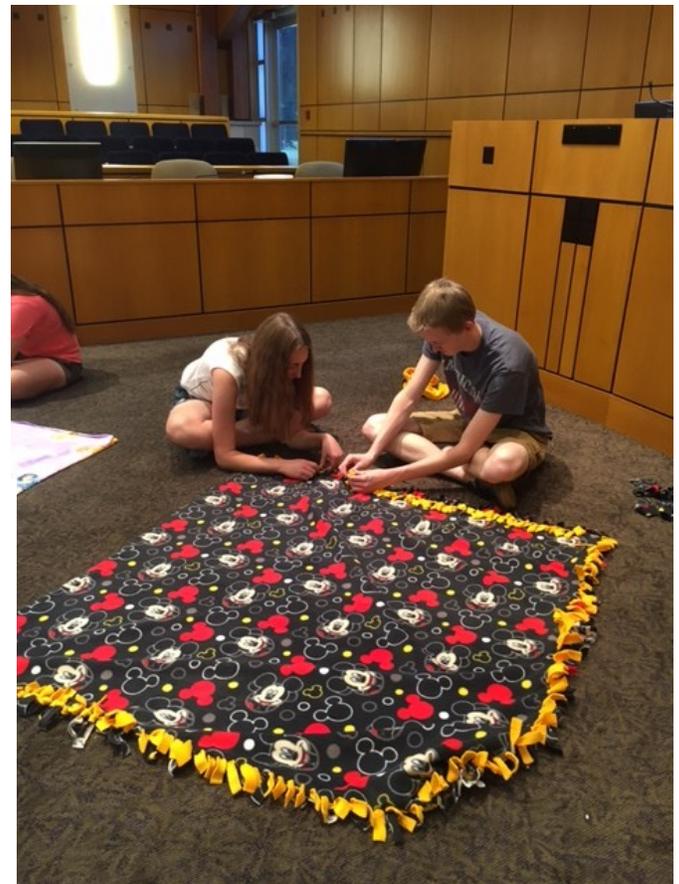


9th



# Annual Blanket Drive!

We did it again! On Monday, June 27th members of Teen Court spent the afternoon making ten fleece blankets to donate to Children's Hospital at Parker Adventist. This is one of the program's most cherished service projects and has been an honored tradition since Teen Court began.



# New Members Sworn into Teen Court

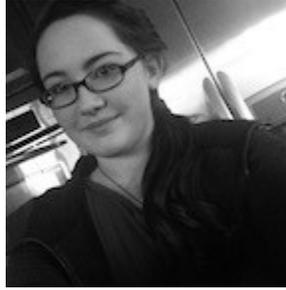
Eleven new members of Teen Court successfully completed General Legal Training in April. This year's training covered public speaking, criminal law, professionalism, the impact of crime, and restorative justice. The new members were officially sworn into the program on June 7<sup>th</sup> at Parker Town Hall. Municipal Court Judge Kevin Sidel led the members in their oath and commitment to uphold the Teen Court code of ethics and oath of confidentiality.



**Welcome to  
Teen Court!**



## “What Teen Court Means to Me” by Rachel Gartrell



Teen Court is an amazing place. The dedication and professionalism you see among all the members is what really makes us thrive. I had no idea how much of a difference I would be making when I became a member. The teens that I see that fix what they've done and get back onto the right path, they are what really makes this worth wild. I'm extremely proud and humbled to be a part of such a positive and helpful program.

I joined Teen Court in late July/early August, of 2014, when I was 12yrs old. I had heard of the program while volunteering one day at our local library. I thought it would be really cool and a lot of fun. This place has become my second family. The members are so kind and welcoming. They've really made me feel comfortable. I definitely have made some very good friends in the past couple years.

When I joined I gained quite a bit of confidence very quickly. I started speaking more and asking questions in panels. I was hungry for more involvement and responsibility. At 14yrs old that has turned into being foreperson as much as I can and taking on every position I can get my hands on. I attend every week and I love every second of it! I have even realized how much of a love and fascination I have for Law. I hope to become a lawyer and work in Family Law as an adult. I'm taking steps towards that right now by recently completing the law school program.

I'm making a difference in my community and that is an awesome feeling, something that I hope to continue to feel for a long, long time.

## Good Luck Seniors!

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, members of Teen Court came together to celebrate 6 seniors who will soon be leaving Teen Court and heading off on new adventures. Everyone enjoyed Chick-Fil-A and hours of games and fun. Thank you to all of the incredible seniors for your dedication to Teen Court over the past several years. You will all be greatly missed!

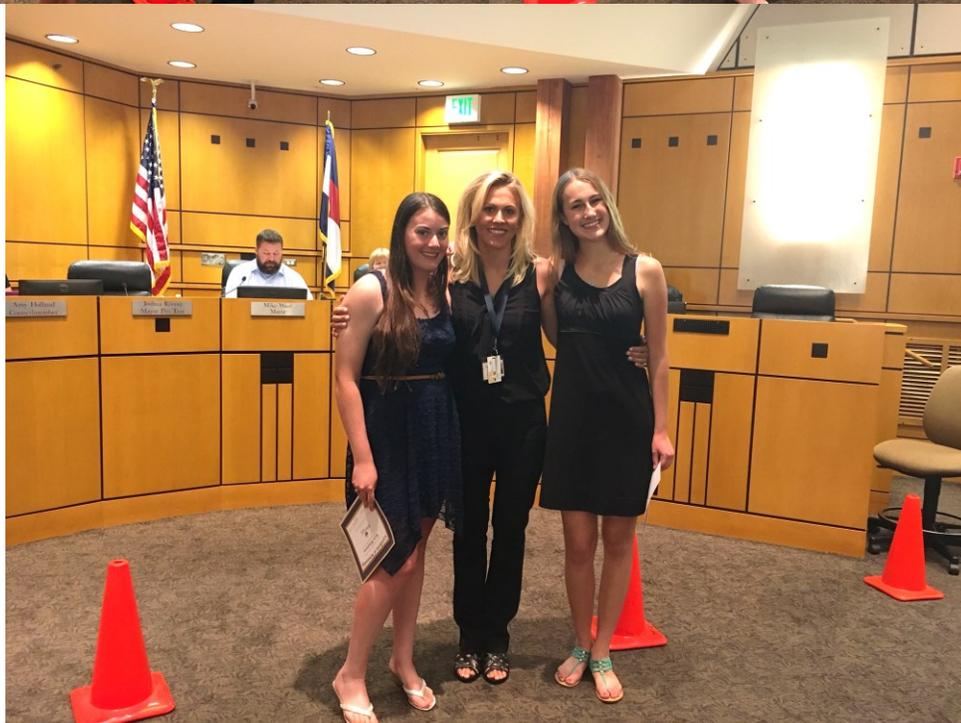


# First Teen Court Scholarship Awards!

Big congratulations to **Macy Falk** and **Kayla Whitehouse** for being recipients of the first ever Teen Court Scholarship! Both girls have been committed members of the program throughout their entire high school career and have acted in various leadership roles in the program. Macy will be attending Colorado State University and Kayla will attend the University of Tampa in the Fall.

Macy and Kayla will receive each a scholarship in value of **\$1,125**, which will directly apply to tuition and fees at their university of choice. The girls were presented with the scholarship at a Town Council meeting on Monday, July 18<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks to the Town of Parker, BellCo Credit Union, and the Parker Adventist Hospital for making this scholarship program possible!



# Mock Trial with Boy Scouts



Several local Boy Scout troops came together to observe a Teen Court mock trial on Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at Parker Town Hall. The Boy Scouts not only observed the trial, but also participated alongside Teen Court members in deliberation. It was a great event that helped fulfill the Boy Scouts' Community Citizenship Merit Badge, which focuses on what citizenship in the community means and what it takes to be a good citizen in your community.

## Teen Court is Expanding

Exciting things are happening at Teen Court! After many months of development and planning, Douglas County and Parker Teen Court are prepared to move forward with a partnership that will allow eligible County cases to be referred to Teen Court in lieu of County Court. This pilot program will allow low-risk juveniles to remain in County Court as diversion clients, however Parker Teen Court will now serve as a program of diversion available only for appropriate cases. Charges that may be seen are curfew violations, shoplifting, MIPs, trespassing, disorderly conduct, and false reporting. This partnership will begin as a pilot program with 8 cases referred to Teen Court programs in Parker, Lone Tree, and Castle Rock. We are hoping to begin receiving cases in Fall 2016.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

Parker Teen Court is once again scheduled for an **overnight empowerment retreat on November 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>**. More information will be sent out soon!