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**McFarlane awarded scholarship for outstanding community service**

**From Staff Reports**  
 Published: Thursday, June 17, 2010 12:53 PM CDT

Cara McFarlane, a senior from Coppell High School is the recipient of a 2010 YouthLaunch Scholarship for Outstanding Service. She is one of only three Texas high school seniors being honored with this scholarship that recognizes truly inspiring community service of young Texans.

McFarlane's desire to not only impact the issue of homelessness but to offer an

interactive service experience for the youth of Coppell led her to found Austin Street Youth, a project feeding the homeless in downtown Dallas, according to a press release.

Once a month she gathers a group of 30 or so young people together on a Friday evening to make 500 meals. At 4 a.m. the group heads to the Austin Street Shelter in downtown Dallas to distribute the meals to homeless men, woman and children who live on the streets of Dallas.

"Four a.m. is simply an unappealing time and yet 30 students continually arrive promptly, in order to touch lives beyond their own," she said.

McFarlane's service doesn't end with Austin Street Youth, she also finds time to mentor younger students at her church and school and build homes with Habitat for Humanity. When most high school seniors are planning for their life after high school, Cara is working with a group of Coppell students to develop a welcome video and mentoring program for the new students who will enroll in her high school next year.

She will be honored at the YouthLaunch Service Awards Luncheon on June 18, at the Hilton in Austin.

YouthLaunch is an Austin based nonprofit organization that engages young people in meaningful long-term, group based community service, supporting the youth as they develop the skills, confidence and resiliency they need to grow into productive, community-minded adults. YouthLaunch has been awarding the Scholarship for Outstanding Service since 2002.

For information visit [www.youthlaunch.org](http://www.youthlaunch.org).

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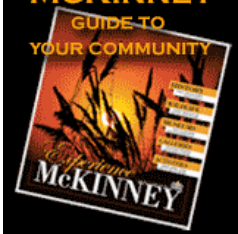
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