

-- NEWS RELEASE --

DATE: April 8, 2011

MTA/CORE SCHOLARSHIP TO BE AWARDED

The Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA) in conjunction with CORE Telecom Systems, joined forces to offer the MTA/CORE Scholarship. We would like to announce the winner of our \$2000.00 scholarship:

Taisha McWilliams

Taisha is a junior attending Montana State University, Bozeman and carries a 4.0 GPA and is a 2008 graduate student from Fairfield High School. Since graduating from high school, she has been awarded the Cell Biology & Neuroscience General Scholarship, IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) Internship Recipient (for 2010-2011 academic year), and College of Letters and Science 101 Seminar Student Fellow. She was also inducted into AED, the pre-health professions honor society at MSU. She is well on her way of living her dream, a doctor. Her father Kevin McWilliams works at 3Rivers Telephone Cooperative.

This scholarship was available to all dependents of full or part-time employees, current directors, or owners (or their spouse) of a rural telephone company or independent telephone system in Montana. The scholarships can be used at any university, college or vocational technical center in the United States. The Scholarship Committee representing suppliers and member companies selects the scholarship recipient by taking in consideration grade point average, past accomplishments, future goals, and extra curricular activities.

About MTA: Since 1955, the Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA) has represented independent telecommunications service providers offering state-of-the-art telecommunications services to residential and business consumers throughout the state. MTA members have invested hundreds of millions of dollars in Montana's telecommunications infrastructure and continue to invest tens of millions each year in new facilities and services serving primarily rural Montana. They provide access to broadband Internet service to over three-quarters - and often near 100% - of their customers. MTA members employ, with outstanding salaries and benefits, nearly 650 proud Montanans who are dedicated to their jobs, their communities and the state's economic development.

About CORE Telecom Systems: CORE is an integrated supplier of brand new and secondary re-used equipment. CORE celebrates 2009 in its 10th year of dedicated service to the IOC market by delivering many manufacturers and products of the telecommunications industry. Our specialization includes a wide range of equipment for central office switching technologies, broadband and transmission products, remote outdoor cabinets, a full line of fiber optic material, complete power systems and a wide variety of batteries by industry leading manufacturers. CORE Telecom Systems is a full service organization helping today's service providers remain profitable in an ever changing telecommunications environment.