



Department of Human Services
Monroe County, New York

Maggie Brooks
County Executive

Kelly A. Reed
Commissioner

Call for Nominations
Young Citizen of the Year
Willie W. Lightfoot Youth Advocate of the Year

March 21, 2008

Dear Colleague:

For many years, the Rochester-Monroe County Youth Bureau, a division of Monroe County's Department of Human Services, has worked with the Monroe County Legislature to identify and honor exceptional youth and youth advocates for their contributions to our community. This year it is the intent of the County Executive Maggie Brooks and the President of the Monroe County Legislature, the Honorable Wayne E. Zyra, to personally announce and honor award recipients in four separate categories.

The four categories will be:

- Finalist for Young Citizen of the Year for youth age 12 and under
- Finalist for Young Citizen of the Year for youth age 13 to 15
- Finalist for Young Citizen of the Year for youth age 16 to 21
- Finalist for Willie W. Lightfoot Youth Advocate of the Year for adults nominated for their efforts on behalf of young people in Monroe County.

It is my pleasure to invite you to assist the Legislature with this process by nominating youth with whom you interact that you feel reflect the qualities outlined on the enclosed nomination forms. I invite you to consider nominating candidates for any or all of the categories. I also hope you will copy the nomination forms and pass them along to colleagues who may know deserving youth and adults for consideration. Nomination forms are also available on our website, www.monroecounty.gov. To access the forms from our website, select "Quick Links", then "Youth Bureau" and scroll down to "Youth Advocate Awards". As you are completing applications, please be as specific as possible and include the full compliment of contributions the youth has made to the community. Specifically include achievements beyond those

that are academic and sport related. Finally, in past years we have received a significant number of nominations for young people that have been incomplete and/or illegible. Unfortunately, in those instances, deserving young people may not be fully considered for an honor that they deserve because the reviewing committee is unable to fully appreciate the basis for the nomination.

All nominees and nominators will be contacted by letter and notified of the results of the selection process. The top **Finalists** in each category will be mailed a formal invitation to the ceremony. All other nominees will receive a congratulatory letter.

Thank you for your continued interest in and support of the young people in our community. I hope you will choose to nominate some of the youth and youth advocates you work with and look forward to reviewing the nominations submitted. Any questions regarding this effort can be directed to our Youth Bureau at (585) 753-6455.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Kelly A. Reed', written in black ink.

Kelly A. Reed

Commissioner

Monroe County Department of Human Services