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March 28, 2024

Valley Prepares to Send Students on the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Washington Youth Tour for the Second Time

Columbus, NM – Valley is thrilled to announce its participation in the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Washington Youth Tour for the second consecutive year. Heather Floyd, Valley's PR Specialist, shared her enthusiasm for the program based on her experience traveling with two students from Animas High School last June.

Floyd expressed, "The experience was awe-inspiring. Yes, there were the expected aspects – history, patriotism, and the beauty that DC offers; but the interaction among the students and focused conversations with Congressional staffers were the true highlights."

This year, seven students from three different high schools entered the Washington Youth Tour contest. To qualify, students had to complete an application and submit a 500-word essay on the topic, "What moment in American History do you wish you had been a part of and what would you have contributed?" Essays covered a wide range of topics, from the era of buffalo roaming the plains to the Space Race.

Brittany Gomez, Valley's Customer Care Specialist, who has been a part of the interview team for two years, expressed her excitement about the process: "I love being a part of the WYT interviews because it is exciting to hear our youths' responses and to interact with them. I also love seeing their excitement and interest in the trip!"

Selected to represent Valley on the 2024 FRS Washington Youth Tour are Ayshleen Lopez, a junior from Deming High School, and Paige Evans, a sophomore from Animas High School. They will be accompanied by Valley chaperones and will embark on their journey to Washington DC on June 3rd, returning on June 7th.

During their time in the nation's capital, the students will have the opportunity to tour the U.S. Capitol, meet with their Congressional Offices, visit the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), and explore Mount Vernon. Additionally, evening tours of iconic memorials including the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, Martin Luther King Memorial, WWII Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, and the Lincoln Memorial are planned. The tour will conclude with visits to various sites at the National Mall.

Valley remains committed to supporting educational opportunities for students and looks forward to witnessing the enriching experiences Ayshleen Lopez and Paige Evans will encounter during their time on the FRS Washington Youth Tour.

About Valley TeleCom Group

Valley TeleCom Group is a local telecommunications company that provides high-speed Internet, phone, and business solutions to southeast Arizona and southwest New Mexico. Valley has offices in Clifton, AZ; Safford, AZ; and Willcox, AZ and has been providing services since 1962. www.vtc.net

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