

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Idaho Teens Earn National Volunteer Award

Idaho teens Harlie Sorrell of Parma and Tracen Mangum of Blackfoot were awarded the 2016 Prudential Spirit of Community Award. The award program, in its 21<sup>st</sup> year, honors young people in each state for outstanding acts of volunteerism.

Sorrell and Mangum will be awarded \$1,000 each, an engraved medal and an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., for four days of national recognition events. The events recognize the top two honorees from every state.

Sorrell, 18, fills hundreds of shoe boxes with gloves, hats, socks, toiletries and other items for Christmas every year and delivers them to people in need. She started when she was 9 years old with one shoebox of gifts. The next year, she used gift money to fill 28 shoeboxes for a mission in Montana, and she has continued ever since. She was nominated by Parma High School.

Mangum, 13, co-founded a youth volunteer group that has collected more than 800 winter apparel items for people in need. The idea started when Mangum and his brother were locally recognized for conducting a pet food drive raising over 3,000 pounds of pet food and supplies. Other youth began contacting Mangum to find out how to volunteer, so they organized the "I, YOU, WE" youth group to take on more service projects. He was nominated by Snake River Junior High School.

Two other Idaho teens were recognized as distinguished finalists. Salmon's Harlee Nelson, 17, collected and distributed 815 coats to children and adults throughout the community. Jenna Novy, 17, of Pocatello, led a food and hygiene drive at her school collecting enough supplies to fill the bed of her truck to be donated to Interact Club.

These Idaho teens contribute to Idaho's status as No. 2 in the nation in for volunteering for the second year in a row according to the Corporation for National and Community Service. To join in the volunteering, you can find opportunities near you at [ServIdaho.gov](http://ServIdaho.gov).

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*Serve Idaho, a division of the Idaho Department of Labor, encourages voluntary public service and volunteerism throughout the state. The Serve Idaho Commission is funded in part by the Corporation for National and Community Service and the Idaho Department of Labor.*

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