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## For Immediate Release

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### **FCCLA National Leadership Conference Brought Youth Leaders To San Antonio, Texas July 6-10, 2014**

*More than 7,000 students and advisers to converge for inspiration, training,  
and opportunities to make a difference locally and across the country*

**July 6-10, 2014** – Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) brought more than 7,000 of its student leaders, members and advisers to the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas to participate in the 70<sup>th</sup> annual National Leadership Conference. 159 of these student delegates, advisers and chaperones attended this amazing leadership experience as representatives of Washington State.

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps today's youth become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences education. FCCLA is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by its members. It is the only career and technical in-school student organization with the family as its central focus. FCCLA has 200,000 members and more than 5,500 chapters from 49 state associations, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The organization has involved more than ten million youth since its founding in 1945.

The FCCLA National Leadership Conference provides students with the opportunity to recognize the year's achievements, enroll in Leadership Academy courses, and compete in over 30 Family and Consumer Sciences related events known as STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) events. These events include Culinary Arts, Knowledge Bowl, Career Investigation, Fashion Construction, and more. Members compete at the District, State and National level. This year, over 4200 STAR Event participants competed in San Antonio, 81 of these students standing as representatives from Washington State chapters such as the Kettle Falls, Rodgers High School, West Valley, Cheney, Tekoa, Mary Walker, Springdale, Mead, Riverside, North Central, and Lewis & Clark chapters.

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America's Adviser Recognition Program awards outstanding local Family and Consumer Sciences teachers who make significant contributions to the organization.

Michelle McCartney, a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at Selah High School, Selah, Washington received the 2014 Spirit of Advising Award for demonstrating excellence in modeling FCCLA character and helping students achieve success. This is an honor bestowed to only one FCCLA chapter adviser from each state.

Cheryl Uceny, a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at Kittitas Secondary School in Kittitas, Washington, was recognized as a Master Adviser by Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA).

Tricia Littlefield, a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at Bonney Lake High School in Bonney Lake, Washington, was recognized as an Adviser Mentor at the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA).

As a student-lead organization, the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) provide students with the opportunity to serve as officers at the State and National level. Washington State FCCLA's own Garrhett Petrea, from Selah High School, was elected onto the 2014-2015 FCCLA Executive Council as National Vice President of Programs. He stands among nine other members on the Executive Council.

"We were delighted to gather great speakers, leadership development initiatives, and the energy of the thousands of students who came to San Antonio for this conference, but realize the best part is that these students will use the event as a platform to make a difference in their own cities and states when they return home," said Sandy Spavone, executive director of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.

*For more information on FCCLA or to attend or arrange interviews regarding its National Leadership Conference, please contact Chris Flynn at (703) 716-1309 or [cflynn@fcclainc.org](mailto:cflynn@fcclainc.org)*