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Niceville Named 2025 Youth Council Excellence Award Winner

Youth Council recognized by Florida League of Cities for volunteer service project

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TALLAHASSEE, FL – The **Florida League of Cities (FLC)**, the united voice for Florida’s municipal governments, announced the **City of Niceville Youth Advisory Council** as one of three winners of the 2025 Youth Council Excellence Award. The annual competition recognizes exceptional youth council initiatives or projects that have made significant contributions to their local municipalities.

Municipal youth councils are special councils that typically serve as advisory boards to the local governments. They are composed of high school students within the city and are sometimes referred to as youth corps, teen advisory boards, or mayor’s youth councils.

The Niceville Youth Advisory Council’s two-part community project sought to bring light and connection to those who may feel overlooked and isolated during the holiday season. Through innovative planning, collaboration, and hard work, the youth council accomplished its goals of decorating the doors of over 30 senior residents at the Bob Hope Enlisted Village and sending heartfelt holiday cards to military veterans.

“What these young volunteers accomplished goes far beyond festive decorations or holiday cards; They created moments of connection, kindness, and community,” said **FLC President Michael C. Blake, Mayor of Cocoa**. “I’m incredibly proud of the Niceville Youth Advisory Council for reminding our seniors and veterans that they are seen, valued, and deeply appreciated during the holiday season.”

The Ocoee Youth Council and the Satellite Beach Youth Council were also named winners in the statewide competition. Contest winners will receive a monetary award of \$500, a trophy, and be featured online in the League’s Quality Cities (QC) magazine as well as on the League’s website and social media outlets.

For more information on the winning projects, visit flcities.com/youthcouncils.

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Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida’s municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local self-government and serve the needs of Florida’s cities, which are formed and governed by their

citizens. The League believes in “Local Voices Making Local Choices,” which focuses on the impact citizens and city leaders have in improving Florida’s communities. For more information, visit flcities.com.