

## **TACSC Receives Ongoing Support from William H. Hannon Foundation**

February 22, 2016/Santa Monica, CA: The William H. Hannon Foundation has made a \$140,000 grant to The Association of Catholic Student Councils (TACSC), which delivers a wide variety of leadership development programs for Catholic elementary and junior high schools throughout California and the United States. The William H. Hannon Foundation has supported TACSC since 2001.

“The William H. Hannon Foundation has been a generous benefactor and prime mover by enabling the growing power and influence of TACSC programs, which have provided immediate and long term benefits to thousands of young Catholic leaders. Thanks to the Foundation’s support we were able to serve 2,524 students in all programs this past year, a 164% increase over the previous year,” said Heidi McNiff Johnson, Executive Director of TACSC.

TACSC’s signature program is a Summer Leadership Conference and in 2015 three conferences, were held in the Southland, at Loyola Marymount University, UC Irvine and Claremont McKenna College. The conferences provide 6, 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students the opportunity to find their voices as leaders. The conference curriculum is based upon the four pillars of being an effective communicator, a real world strategic planner, lifelong mentor and servant leader. In 2015, 403 students from 90 schools attended the conferences and nearly 70% of the students benefited from scholarships.

“TACSC provides an incredible opportunity for our Catholic school children to develop leadership skills that will not only serve them well in their schools, but will help them throughout their lives. As a former elementary school teacher, I know first-hand the value of teaching young people how to communicate and think strategically,” said Kathleen Hannon Aikenhead, President of the William H. Hannon Foundation.

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