FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Monday, May 4, 2015

CONTACT: Erin Maker, Marketing and Communications Officer
(508) 790-3040; emaker@capecodfoundation.org

Cape Youth Force Announces 2015 Grantees

SOUTH YARMOUTH – On Thursday, April 30th, members of the Cape Youth Force presented their 2015 Grant Awards at Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School (DY) to recipients: Katelynn’s Closet and Child and Family Services of Cape Cod. After 11 years, this was the first time the program was hosted by DY, after most recently being held at Sturgis Charter School in Barnstable.

With strong support by DY principal, Kenneth Jenks, the Cape Youth Force met over the course of the past three months, engaging students in the grant-making process from start to finish. The group chose to focus on programs that affect children, youth and families on Cape Cod with a preference to those who serve the Dennis-Yarmouth community. DY seniors: Courtney New, Hunter Peterson and Rowan Dean were on hand to present checks on behalf of the Cape Youth Force to Beth Davis of Katelynn’s Closet and Kristen Davies from Child and Family Services.

“I thoroughly enjoyed the process, because I knew at the end of the day, I’d be helping someone. It’s a rewarding feeling knowing you’re making a difference,” commented Rowan Dean when asked what she thought of her experience serving on the Cape Youth Force.

“By engaging students in the grant-making process, we hope to plant the seeds of how rewarding it can be to serve your community,” remarked Dara Bryan, of The Cape Cod Foundation, who serves as a mentor to the participants throughout the process. “We are confident that the investment we make in Cape Youth Force will have a vital impact on the health and wellness of our community in the future.”

2015 Cape Youth Force Grantees:

- **Katelynn’s Closet** was awarded $700 to further the organization’s mission of providing much needed clothing to children between ages 4 to 18 who live on the Cape or Islands. Children are referred to the program by social workers, school nurses or through the foster care system and are given new or gently worn clothing based on his or her individual needs.

- **Child & Family Services of Cape Cod** received $300 from the Youth Force towards their Therapeutic Mentoring Program which offers structured one-to-one, strength-based support services between a mentor and a youth for the purpose of addressing daily living, social, and communication needs.

The Cape Youth Force is a committee of Cape Cod high school students who work to make the community a better place by supporting projects that positively affect youth on the Cape and Islands. It is a program of The Cape Cod Foundation and Barnstable County UMass Extension/4H. The program was established in 2004 with funding from the Massachusetts Environmental Trust and is now funded by local contributions as well as the Community Fund for Young People and the Priscilla Cotter Fund for Youth Activities, both funds of The Cape Cod Foundation.
To learn more about how to get involved, visit The Cape Cod Foundation’s website at www.capecodfoundation.org.

The Cape Cod Foundation is a community foundation whose mission is to build permanent charitable resources for community betterment through informed grantmaking and civic leadership. The Foundation has distributed more than $50 million in grants and scholarships since its founding in 1989.

From left to right

Standing: Dara Bryan (The Cape Cod Foundation), Courtney New, Rowan Dean, Kerry Bickford (UMass Extension), Hunter Peterson
Seated: Kristen Davies (Child and Family Services of Cape Cod), Beth Davis (Katelynn’s Closet)