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Joe 15 Team wins youth award

Debbie Page-Maples, her family and two students from each of the five Joe 15 Team Clubs traveled to Roanoke to the Virginia Education Association's annual awards ceremony in April.

The Joe 15 Team was awarded the Fitz Turner Youth Award for Human and Civil Rights for Virginia.

The clubs were formed after Debbie Page-Maple's 20-year-old son, Joe, became the innocent victim of a random shooting.

She and his friends who kept vigil at the hospital decided they had to do something positive in his memory. The result is The Joe 15 Team, groups of Prince Wil-

liam County students who have formed community service clubs in their schools. Fifteen was Joe's favorite number.

Thus far, Joe 15 clubs have held blood drives, collected food for the needy, volunteered at homeless shelters and senior citizen facilities, adopted a stretch of highway and promoted peaceful conflict resolution.

"These teens are poised and committed to helping their communities — a perfect example of the type of young men and women we like to highlight in Virginia," said Prince William Supervisor Wally Covington, III.

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