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# California Water Service Group Awards \$60,000 in Scholarships to Students in Its Service Areas

SAN JOSE, CA -- (Marketwired) -- 09/10/15 -- California Water Service Group (Cal Water) (NYSE: CWT) announced the award of \$60,000 in college scholarships during a ceremony at the California State Capitol today. Two grand-prize recipients, Fariha Hameed from Westlake Village, Calif. and Sophia Leiker from Chico, Calif., were recognized for their outstanding academic achievement and community service.

Attending the ceremony were Senators Allen (D-Santa Monica), Pavley (D-Agoura Hills), and Wolk (D-Davis); Assembly Members Bonta (D-Oakland), Gallagher (R-Yuba City), Gomez (D-Los Angeles), and Mathis (R-Visalia); along with Cal Water President and Chief Executive Officer Martin A. Kropelnicki. Additionally, Hameed and Leiker were recognized during the Senate session by Senators Nielsen (R-Gerber) and Pavley, and also met with Assembly Member Irwin (D-Thousand Oaks).

In addition to the top two scholarships of \$10,000 each, Cal Water awarded 20 scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$3,500 to students throughout the Group's service areas.

The scholarship program, which is administered by Scholarship Management Services, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is funded by Cal Water's shareholders, not ratepayers.

"One of Cal Water's core values is to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve, and by helping young people pursue a college education, we are making an investment in our young people's future," said President and CEO Martin A. Kropelnicki. "We are confident these remarkable men and women will go on to accomplish great things and represent their communities well."

"Fariha's years of academic excellence, dedicated volunteerism, and leadership have not gone unnoticed in our community, and we are so lucky to have her," said Assembly Member Irwin, who represents the 44<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, including Cal Water's Westlake service area. "I am honored to congratulate Fariha on receiving this scholarship, and I know she will continue to make our district proud."

Of Leiker, Assembly Member Gallagher, who represents the 3<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District, including Cal Water's Chico service area, said, "I was honored to join Ms. Leiker this morning as she was awarded a \$10,000 scholarship from Cal Water. Sophia is a very bright young woman and does great work with young women in our community. I am glad Cal Water is able to assist in furthering her education at an outstanding university like Cal."

To be eligible for a scholarship, students must live in a Cal Water service area, plan to enroll in full-time undergraduate study at an accredited two- or four-year college or vocational-technical school, and not already possess a degree or diploma from an accredited two- or four-year college or vocational-technical school.

The next scholarship cycle will open in spring 2016 for students pursuing higher education in the fall of 2016. To learn more about the scholarship program, visit [www.calwater.com/community/scholarship](http://www.calwater.com/community/scholarship).

California Water Service Group is the parent company of California Water Service, Washington Water Service Company, New Mexico Water Service Company, Hawaii Water Service Company, Inc., CWS Utility Services, and HWS Utility Services, LLC. Together these companies provide regulated and non-regulated water service to approximately 2 million people in more than 100 California, Washington, New Mexico and Hawaii communities. Group's common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "CWT." Additional information is available online at [www.calwatergroup.com](http://www.calwatergroup.com).