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**Caribou High School Student Receives 2010 Samantha Smith Award**

Portland: The Maine Women's Fund is pleased to announce that Caribou High School student, Kellene O'Hara, has been selected as our 2010 Samantha Smith Award Recipient.

Ms. O'Hara was chosen for this award because of her active role on the Caribou High School Civil Rights Team. She is an ambitious leader with tremendous initiative and the ability to motivate her peers. O'Hara is currently leading the team in production of a training video, which the Attorney General's Office will use in Civil Rights student trainings around the state. She has been the Project Manager for World Aids Day and Teen Dating Violence Awareness Week. Additionally, she has been instrumental in creating and tabulating a school-wide harassment survey, which shaped several other awareness activities. Without question, O'Hara has been a positive influence within her school and community.

We are delighted to celebrate Ms. O'Hara's accomplishments by presenting her the 2010 Samantha Smith Award at our June 10th [Leadership Luncheon](#). The Samantha Smith Award is given to a young woman from Maine who has worked to promote social change in her school or community; who inspired other girls to become active in supporting long lasting change in Maine; who used her voice boldly to influence others and who understand the power of philanthropy to make a difference in this world.

**About Samantha Smith**

Samantha Smith, born in Houlton, Maine, gained international attention in 1982 when she wrote to Soviet leader Yuri Andropov, trying to understand Cold War tensions between the Soviet Union and the United States. In response to her letter, Samantha and her family were invited to the Soviet Union and she became known as America's Youngest Ambassador. In the next few years, she continued to travel the world as a child ambassador. In 1985, Samantha and her father were killed in a plane crash. Samantha remains to this day, an inspiration of idealism, a voice of change and a model for peace and understanding.

**About the Maine Women's Fund**

In 20 years, the Maine Women's Fund has granted over \$1.5 million to organizations across the State. Last year, the Fund granted nearly \$80,000 to nonprofits which are creating long-lasting change that will build the economic security of thousands of women and girls. Through grantmaking, we are pushing for policy changes, investing in education and girls' independence. We are helping women build and expand businesses, train for better jobs and wages, build assets and make smart financial decisions. We are working with women as leaders and donors to prioritize women as key agents of change for their families, communities and Maine.

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