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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Savannah River Nuclear Solutions Family Scholarships

**AIKEN, S.C.**, – May 31, 2023 – More than 200 graduating high school students have benefitted from the SRNS Family Scholarship Program since its inception in 2009, providing \$675,000 in college scholarships.

This year, 15 members of SRNS employees' families each received \$3,000 scholarships.

"With \$3,000, I can pay for all my books or my housing for a whole semester," said Jason Edwards, Williston-Elko High School. "I think this is a great thing, especially when you consider that SRNS is providing scholarships to so many others from many local schools."

The winning students were graded and selected based on ability, leadership, community service and scholastic achievement.

"Each student was so impressive," said Rich Zaharek, SRNS Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Office, Environmental Missions. "It's not just their academic excellence. These students always seem to excel in multiple areas of their lives, be it sports, at their place of worship or devoting time and other resources to those in need. They're all so exceptionally mature for their ages and incredibly gifted. We hope many of these young men and women, like their parents, will one day join the SRNS family."



*(Front row, from left) Shea Bolt, Aiken Scholars Academy; Shelby Saunders, Midland Valley High School; Sarah Diacetis, Grovetown High School; Isabella Shappell, Mead Hall Episcopal School; Caroline Lewis, T.L. Hanna High School; Connor Salch, Silver Bluff High School. (Back row, from left) Sean Alford, SRNS Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer; Aydan Masterson, South Aiken High School; Tristan Troutman, Aiken Scholars Academy; Ireland Mack, Silver Bluff High School; Caroline Bowers, South Aiken High School; Jason Edwards, Williston-Elko High School; Sarah Cullen, Evans High School; Caylee Scott, Aiken High School; Michah Woodsmall, Selah Christian Academy. (Not pictured, Karoline Bolen, Barnwell High School).*

"This gift is going to help lift a pretty big burden off my back, regarding what I'm going to have to pay for college," said Midland Valley senior Shelby Saunders. "It's highly appreciated."

Saunders plans to attend the College of Charleston, majoring in biology and pre-med, with the career goal of being a medical examiner.

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“I’ve always had an interest in criminal justice and law, in addition to health care. So, this is the perfect blend,” said Saunders. “When I tell others about my plans for the future, I usually get ‘Oh, that’s disgusting’ or ‘Wow, that’s really cool.’”

This year, SRNS scholarships were awarded to:

- Karoline Bolen, Barnwell High School, daughter of Adam Bolen, Environment, Safety, Health and Quality (ESH&Q)
- Shea Bolt, Aiken Scholars Academy, son of Shawn Bolt, Engineering
- Caroline Bowers, South Aiken High School, daughter of Len Bowers, Business Services
- Sarah Cullen, Evans High School, daughter of Dawn Cullen, ESH&Q
- Sarah Diacetis, Grovetown High School, daughter of Christopher Diacetis, Business Services
- Jason Edwards, Williston-Elko High School, son of Thomas Edwards, Engineering
- Caroline Lewis, T.L. Hanna High School, daughter of Michael Lewis, ESH&Q
- Ireland Mack, Silver Bluff High School, daughter of Jason Mack, Technical Services
- Aydan Masterson, South Aiken High School, son of Anh Masterson, Engineering
- Connor Salch, Silver Bluff High School, son of William Salch, ESH&Q
- Shelby Saunders, Midland Valley High School, daughter of Harold Saunders, ESH&Q
- Caylee Scott, Aiken High School, daughter of Leon Scott, Engineering
- Isabella Shappell, Mead Hall Episcopal School, daughter of Joseph Shappell, Engineering
- Tristan Troutman, Aiken Scholars Academy, son of Duane Troutman, ESH&Q
- Micah Woodsmall, Selah Christian Academy, son of Todd Woodsmall, Engineering

In an interesting coincidence, scholarship winner Tristan Troutman’s mother received a family scholarship 23 years ago from Westinghouse, the Savannah River Site’s management and operations contractor, at the time. “It was exciting then, but I’m even more excited for Tristan today,” said Rebekah Troutman.

*Savannah River Nuclear Solutions is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy’s Savannah River Site located near Aiken, South Carolina.*