



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Arabian Horse Association's Youth Board Gives Back

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**(AURORA, COLO.)** – Making a wish come true for a child is a once in a lifetime opportunity. For many youth members of the Arabian Horse Association (AHA), riding, owning, or showing an Arabian horse is a dream come true. For other kids across America, dreams come in many different forms - from meeting a superstar or receiving a new bike, to spending time with animals, and so much more. On Friday, Mar. 14, the Youth Board at AHA chose to give back to a cause that brings these different wishes to life for children everywhere.

Gathering in Aurora, Colo. for their March Arabian Horse Youth Association (AHYA) board meeting, 13 members of the board took a trip into Denver to deliver a gift worth more than words. With delicious donuts in tow, this group of teenagers hand delivered a \$5,000 check to Make-A-Wish® Colorado.

Founded in 1983, and one of the nation's first Make-A-Wish® chapters, the Colorado chapter has granted more than 4,000 wishes to children in all corners of the state. Make-A-Wish® Colorado's Director of Events and Promotions, Patti Forsythe helped to coordinate the gift and check delivery with AHA's Youth and Family Programs Director, Shawna Strickland. Strickland expressed that her Youth Board felt that giving back to their community was important and socially responsible.

"A year ago, the AHYA Board met to discuss their programs and activities for the year," said Strickland. "They expressed a desire to pass on to others the privilege they have experienced with their Arabian horses. The Make-A-Wish® Foundation came to mind immediately, and it's been inspiring to watch them work over the last year to make this donation possible. I'm immensely proud of them and humbled by their dedication and generosity."

The AHA Youth Board rounded out their day with a trip to the Denver Broncos' Sports Authority Field at Mile High Stadium, a visit with Broncos' Arabian horse mascot Thunder, and lunch at The Cheesecake Factory downtown. They finished off their weekend at the AHA offices with a board meeting that revolved around decision making for the future and growing the Arabian horse breed.

### ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION<sup>SM</sup>

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