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Freedom Alliance Scholarship Recipient Honored by Stephen Siller Foundation

Student Receives Richard Sheirer Award as part of annual Tunnel to Towers 5K Memorial Run

DULLES, Va. – (Oct. 12, 2017) – Asia Solomon, a Freedom Alliance scholarship recipient, recently received the prestigious Richard Sheirer Memorial Scholarship Award from the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation at the Tunnel to Towers 5K Run & Walk in New York City.

Freedom Alliance, which honors and supports America’s military families, participates in the inspirational event each year. A Freedom Alliance student – the son or daughter of a fallen military hero – is selected to receive the award which honors the late Richie Sheirer, Director of New York City’s Office of Emergency Management at the time of the attack on the World Trade Center in 2001. He is credited with organizing the massive and complicated Ground Zero recovery. As a board member of the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation, Sheirer devoted countless hours to organize the Tunnel to Towers 5K and helped the foundation provide support to burn victims, wounded troops, and the children of fallen military heroes.

"We can think of no better way to honor Richie Sheirer than to give a scholarship in his name through Freedom Alliance. We are grateful for the heroic life and death of Asia's father, a true American hero, and the entire Solomon family who have sacrificed so much for us," states Frank Siller, Chairman and CEO of the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation.

Asia Solomon is a sophomore at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke pursuing a major in Nursing and minor in Spanish. Upon graduation, Solomon plans to attend the University of Michigan School of Nursing to earn a dual master’s degree as a Nurse Midwife and Family Nurse Practitioner. Her father, Army Sgt. Roderic Solomon, lost his life in 2003 when his Bradley Fighting Vehicle (BFV) rolled off a 50-foot cliff on his way toward Baghdad.

In accepting the award, Asia spoke of her father’s “infectious smile and laughter,” and explained he “came from a long line of soldiers who willingly made the military a career.” Asia thanked Freedom Alliance and the Stephen Siller Foundation for “paving the way for service members, first responders, and families alike.” She thanked Sheirer’s family saying, “my father would have been proud to know your father. It is an honor to have this award.”

“Freedom Alliance is grateful to the Tunnel to Towers Foundation for hosting the most inspirational event in the country and for their commitment to America’s heroes and their children,” said Freedom Alliance President Tom Kilgannon.

Freedom Alliance provides more than \$1 million each year in college scholarships to the children of fallen or disabled service members. Since 2003, more than 1,000 students have received financial assistance for college.



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About Freedom Alliance

Freedom Alliance is a charitable organization which supports wounded troops and military families. Freedom Alliance has awarded \$12 million in college scholarships to the children of military heroes killed or disabled and has spent millions more helping injured veterans and military families with recreational rehabilitation, retreats for married couples, care packages for deployed troops, mortgage-free homes, all-terrain wheel chairs and much more. You can learn more about Freedom Alliance at www.FreedomAlliance.org.

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