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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AWARD HELPS THREE OUTSTANDING YOUNG PATIENTS ACHIEVE GOALS

[January 8, 2016 - Phoenix, Arizona] – Three outstanding young kidney patients have been awarded the fourth annual Paul Silver Tribute Award. This award was created in memory of Paul Silver, an Alport Syndrome patient who received a similar award that had a great impact on his life. The Paul Silver Tribute Award was designed to "pay it forward" and assist young Alport Syndrome patients in achieving their own goals. This is the first award of this kind specifically for Alport patients. The award can be used for a variety of activities to enrich the lives of young patients, including tuition, summer camp, music lessons, or a specific project. Winners were chosen based on several criteria, including the quality of their essay and the purpose and potential impact of the award.

The three Paul Silver Tribute Award recipients are Tristin Rancour, 19, from South Dakota; Jeffrey Stamp, 19, from Minnesota; and Joseph Sales, 17, from California. Their inspiring essays detail their experiences with Alport Syndrome and can be found on the Alport Syndrome Foundation (ASF) website at www.alportsyndrome.org.

“ASF is excited to offer the Paul Silver Tribute Award again this year to these deserving young men,” said ASF president Sharon Lagas. “They serve as positive examples to other young people living with Alport Syndrome. We are pleased to offer this wonderful opportunity to help young Alport patients, who are the hardest hit by this disease.”

About Alport Syndrome and the Alport Syndrome Foundation

Alport Syndrome is a rare hereditary kidney disease that causes a decline in kidney function, hearing loss and vision problems. The disease leads to kidney failure for 50% of most boys by age 25. Girls are affected too, with some impacted similarly to boys but most seeing later disease progression.

An Alport Syndrome diagnosis devastates families because it often affects multiple family members across generations. There is no cure for Alport Syndrome and no treatment proven to prevent the development of kidney failure; however, early diagnosis is essential as there are medications to delay the progression of the disease.

The Alport Syndrome Foundation (ASF) is the leading independent, volunteer-led nonprofit organization in the United States serving and giving a voice to the Alport Syndrome community. ASF's mission is to improve the lives of patients through education, empowerment, advocacy and research to realize the vision of finding novel treatments and a cure to prevent kidney failure and hearing loss in all patients.

For more information, please visit www.alportsyndrome.org.

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