

## **PRESS RELEASE-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Circles of Mercy Honors Local Youth Volunteer with Award**



**Photo Caption (IMG 6977):**

***Columbia High School Student Stephen Reilly (right) accepts the Sister Gail A. Reith, RSM 2016 Volunteer Service Award from Richard S. Zazycki (right), Executive Director of Circles of Mercy, for his recent volunteer community service in Rensselaer.***

Circles of Mercy and the Sisters of Mercy Northeast Community recently presented their annual ***Sister Gail A. Rieth, RSM Volunteer Service Award*** honoring local youth ***Stephen Reilly*** for his volunteer work assisting at Circles of Mercy in Rensselaer.

Stephen Reilly an 18 year old youth from East Greenbush, who just completed his senior year at Columbia High School. He was presented the Volunteer Award for his efforts during the past year, working with the staff at Circles of Mercy and its thrift store Catherine's Closet. Stephen during his internship has literally touched hundreds of lives. He is a rare type of individual who combines exceptional natural ability with a willingness and eagerness to learn and to help others; especially women and children. He will attend SUNY's Maritime College in Throggs Neck, NY, and is also applying for Naval ROTC while attending college this fall. Stephen is the son Maureen and Richard Reilly, both who were instrumental in getting him involved in volunteering at Circles of Mercy. We are very happy to recognize him with our volunteer award and offer our sincere congratulations.

The volunteer awards were presented during the "A Taste of Mercy" annual fund raising gala recently held to celebrate "Catherine's Circle of Friends" and to benefit Circles of Mercy. Circles is an out-reach center for those in need, sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy Northeast Community. It was established in 1997 in the City of Rensselaer and has an eighteen-year tradition of offering programs and services to provide hope, hospitality and empowerment to individuals in the Rensselaer Community.

#### **EDITORS – FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Richard S. Zazycki, Executive Director | Circles of Mercy | (518) 462-0899