



# Ross McGinnis Memorial Service Awards

## Awarded Annually on June 14th beginning in 2011

OPEN APPLICATION PROCESS - CAN BE DOWNLOADED at [www.smilesamericorps.org](http://www.smilesamericorps.org)

On December 4, 2006, while on duty in Baghdad, Iraq, SPC Ross McGinnis used his body to smother a grenade, saving the lives of four fellow soldiers. McGinnis died from the blast. Ross's patriotism and sacrifice has earned him a Purple Heart, Silver Star for Valor and the Medal of Honor. Ross was also a student of the Keystone SMILES Alternative Education Program which engages students as volunteers in community service-learning programs.

As a tribute to Ross, Keystone SMILES' AmeriCorps alum, Keith McCauley, donated \$5,000 to establish an endowment fund. Through his efforts and an out pouring of community support to reach a sustainable endowment, the first awards were given in December of 2007. Contributions continue to be accepted.

### ELIGIBILITY/APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS ---

### APPLICATION DEADLINE May 27th, 2011

- Must demonstrate participation in an outstanding service project or ongoing volunteer activities addressing human needs, environment, public safety or education which benefited an individual group, or community.
- Has not been a recipient of this Award previously. This is a one-time award.
- Must have a minimum of 2.75 GPA at time of application and Award disbursement.
- Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. Minimum 17 years of age. No educational level required.
- Applicant agrees to be present at the annual Award Ceremony to be held at the Keystone SMILES Community Learning Center in Knox, PA.

**The Honor "Service" Award -Requirements:** The applicant must have attended or currently attends a high school or post secondary school located in a county identified on the regional map in order to access the award. (Refer to map illustration.)

**The Silver "Service" Award** - must have attended or currently attends a public, private, or post secondary school located in Clarion County. Applicant must also be enrolled in a post-secondary technical / career / educational institution to access the award.

**The Bronze "Service" Award** - must have attended or currently attend Keystone High School, Clarion Career Center or Keystone SMILES Alternative Education Program and be enrolled in a post-secondary technical / career / educational institution to access the award.

