

Area

Education

Tuesday, September 08, 2009 3:00 AM

SuperSibs! Summit

Spencer Scarvey, a sophomore at the University of Georgia, attended SuperSibs! 2009 Scholars Summit, an invitational meeting of 20 academically talented and promising young SuperSibs! scholarship recipients from across the United States who have been affected by a sibling's cancer diagnosis.

The weekend summit, sponsored by the Bradbury Foundation and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, was held July 18-19 just outside Chicago.

SuperSibs! scholarship recipients are selected in an application process based on their academic achievement, leadership experience, essay and letters of recommendation.

Scarvey received a \$5,000 Manne Family Foundation Scholarship in 2008 from SuperSibs! for her ability to take a devastating life experience and turn it into a positive, strength-building experience for herself, as well as to create good in the lives of others.

During the summit, Scarvey and fellow scholars developed sibling survivorship services to promote resilience, strength and wellbeing.

Scholars also created public service announcement videos. These will help generate awareness about the sibling impact and be viewed at professional conferences for educators and school social workers to help at-risk siblings succeed and thrive in school. The public can view SuperSibs! 2009 Scholars Summit PSAs on Facebook and YouTube.

Scarvey and fellow scholars are working to establish groups and clubs that will raise awareness of the sibling impact and engage students on college campuses across the country.

SuperSibs! is a national nonprofit organization that is changing the culture of pediatric oncology services to ensure that sibling support is integrated into all aspects of care to ensure total family healing.