



News from the Shelby County Mayor's Office

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Mayor Luttrell to Attend *tnAchieves* Scholars' Event This Week

Forty *tnAchieves* scholars from Southwest Community College will begin their journey as *tnAchieves* Ambassadors this week, recognized for their scholastic abilities and their commitment to be mentors to college-bound high school graduates.

“These students are fortunate to attend Southwest Community College through the *tnAchieves* program. As part of the *tnAchieves* Ambassador program, they join more than 500 mentors from across Shelby County who will coach high school students as they transition to college, complete their studies and graduate,” said Mayor Luttrell.

The *tnAchieves* Ambassador kick-off event will be held Thursday, May 29th at Bridges, 477 North Fifth Street at 9 a.m. Following Mayor Luttrell's remarks, the students will learn team-building techniques and leadership skills.

The Southwest students hope to be some of the first to graduate through the *tnAchieves* program, which began in Shelby County in 2012. *tnAchieves* is a scholarship and mentoring program designed to give assistance to all high school graduates interested in earning a post-secondary degree or credential at a community college or Tennessee College of Applied Technology. *tnAchieves* is now serving as a partnering organization to Governor Haslam's Tennessee Promise initiative.

“Receiving financial assistance for college is critical for many high school graduates here in Shelby County. Yet, the personal interaction mentors have with students is often the motivating force to encourage them on to graduation. That's why more mentors are needed,” added Mayor Luttrell.

Mentors must pass a background check and invest at least 10 hours annually to assist students enrolled in the *tnAchieves* program.

Go to: <https://tnachieves.org/a-mentor> for more information.

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