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**Local Non-Profit Receives $56,300 Gift From Arizona-Based Company**

*Girls Rule Foundation Accepts Monumental Donation at Annual Fundraiser*

**SCOTTSDALE, Ariz., (May 4, 2015) –** The Second Annual [Colony American Homes](http://www.colonyamerican.com/) Golf Classic was held on May 1, 2015 in memory of Brynne Smith, a former employee who passed away in 2013. The Arizona-based rental property firm honors her legacy by hosting a golf tournament to raise money for a cause that she would cherish. This year, the [Girls Rule Foundation](http://www.girlsrulefoundation.org), a local 501c3, was chosen as the recipient of a generous $56,300 donation.

The Girls Rule Foundation builds life-changing workshops and programs aimed to inspire, educate and empower young girls between the ages of 12 and 18. The purpose of these resources and educational programs is to provide the necessary tools and information to turn young girls’ dreams into realities.

"Brynne was an inspiring young woman who loved and accepted others as they were. This foundation encompasses almost everything Brynne stood for. We couldn’t have chosen a better foundation to keep Brynne’s memory alive,” says Melissa Ferris, Administrative Manager at Colony American Homes.

The Golf Classic has already showed tremendous success and growth, doubling in both sponsors and raffle prizes from its inaugural year. Through the generosity of sponsors, countless donations and hard work by a small team of dedicated individuals, Colony American Homes is able to provide the Girls Rule Foundation with one of their largest donations to date. The $56,300 check will contribute to the national launch of dreamLAB, the Foundation’s new inspirational, afterschool club for girls in middle and high school. Dena Patton, Executive Director and co-founder of the Foundation, is committed to expanding the reach and impact of the Girls Rule Foundation through the opening of 1,000 dreamLABs across the country.

In dreamLAB, young girls learn leadership skills and participate in service projects while gaining the encouragement and skills to further their dreams and futures. Visit [www.girlsrulefoundation.org](http://www.girlsrulefoundation.org) to purchase the Leader Starter Kit for dreamLAB which will equip any girl with the needed materials to start her own club in her school or neighborhood for up to 12 members.

“Being chosen as the charity for the 2015 Colony American Homes Golf Classic has been game changing to our organization. We are able to launch our national after-school program because of their financial support. We are so grateful for this opportunity and the impact it will have on over 12,000 girls to help them build bright futures,” says Patton.

**About Colony American Homes**

Colony American Homes is a leading provider of high quality, single-family homes for rent across America. They rent homes that have been carefully selected, purchased and renovated to the upmost standards. Colony American Homes is committed to providing residents with consistent, high-quality, single-family rental residences that fit each family's individual needs. For more information, visit [www.colonyamerican.com](http://www.colonyamerican.com).

**Girls Rule Foundation**

Girls Rule Foundation is an Arizona-based, 501c3 nonprofit organization that helps girls stay on track, dream big and stay in school through college. The dreamLAB co-author team is made up by award-winning authors, experts and women who have a heart for girls. They include: Dr. Alison Arnold, Dr. Robyn McKay, Tish Times, Judi Pine-Sellers, Jennifer Johnson and Dena Patton. See more about their programs at [www.girlsrulefoundation.org](http://www.girlsrulefoundation.org).

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