

## **Aubrey Rose Hollenkamp Foundation**

### **2010 Scholarship Essay**

God has blessed me in many ways. I have a loving and supportive family that encourages me in every aspect of my life. I am blessed that my family has provided me with a Catholic grade school education. Our Lady of Victory has shown me how service to others is an important way to show that I am a Christian. Through Student Council, OLV Ambassadors, National Honor Society, and other service opportunities, I have affected the people around me.

As treasurer of Student Council, I have had the opportunity to lead Red Ribbon Week. I was able to educate other students about “saying no” to drugs. We donated the money we received throughout the week to the Talbert House, a social service helping people in our area. As an OLV Ambassador Board Member, I am able to help with many service activities. For the past two years, I helped make gingerbread houses for Shriners Hospital Houses of Hope contest. I also had the opportunity to attend Oyler Elementary school during Christmastime to pass out gifts and candy canes and talk to the younger kids. This was a great experience seeing how happy the children were to meet us and receive gifts. I am an inaugural member of the National Junior Honor Society. This year, I am participating in a service fair. I was able to visit Ronald McDonald House and help prepare the snack meal for the resident families. During Catholic School’s Week in February, I will be presenting a project on Ronald McDonald House Charities to share with the rest of my school.

Last year I was able to affect someone’s life through tutoring at school. The tutoring program took place twice a week during recess. Two junior high students were

assigned to work with a first grade student. We were there to help the student become a better reader. This tutoring process helped me develop my leadership skills, too. I wanted to set a good example and be a good role model for her as she continues her education. At Our Lady of Victory, I am the reader of daily announcements. One Friday afternoon, I announced that my first grader's birthday was that weekend. Since we had our tutoring sessions on Mondays, I wanted to do something special for her. I went shopping and bought her a bag full of my favorite candy. When I brought it in for her that Monday, she was so surprised! I will never forget her smile when she saw her goody bag. She was happy to receive a gift from her helper and couldn't believe that I remembered her birthday. Through tutoring, we have become friends. Now when I see her in the halls, she is not afraid because I am one of the "big kids". She smiles and waves to me like we have been friends forever. I know I have helped her in a small way.

There are many ways to make a difference in the world. Even a small act of kindness can make a big impact on another person. My service projects may not solve any major problems, but I know I am working to make the world a better place. Small acts of service can lead to big changes. I love making the small steps that affect those around me!