

Aubrey Rose Hollenkamp Foundation Scholarship Essay
Justin Quatman

My name is Justin Quatman and I attend Our Lady of Victory grade school. I first heard about Aubrey Rose last year when my cousin was applying for high school scholarships. Not knowing a whole lot about her or her situation, I went to the website to get more information. I was amazed at how much I learned about this little girl and the impact she had on so many people's lives. She was so young and lived a short life here on earth, but her memory seems to keep living on by putting heartwarming smiles on people's faces every time they think of her. After everything Aubrey went through she still continued to fight to survive. It seemed like an endless battle for her, but after every episode she did get better. Even if it was only for a short time. I'm amazed at how much of an impact someone so young made on so many people's lives. After reading all of this on the website, it really made me think about my own life. I've always tried my best to help people and be there for them when they need me. But now, I wanted to make sure I continued to do that throughout my life. I've seen what it meant to people who's life Aubrey touched and I wanted to do the same.

I've had so many opportunities to make an impact on others lives. Being an eighth grader this year, I think it's important to be a good role model for the younger students at OLV. Right now at school I'm a Prayer Leader, which means it's my job each morning during Advent and Lent to visit a classroom of younger students to lead them in prayer. I like doing this because I feel like I'm setting a good example for these students by showing them how important prayer is as part of our faith and how important it is in our lives. I'm also a server at mass, which makes me feel good because I feel like I'm helping out my church community by giving my time, reverence and service to God.

Another way I've touched others is by donating my time in many volunteer activities. One of the things I did this year was to help distribute Thanksgiving dinner boxes to the needy. During Thanksgiving and Christmas my parents were always saying it's a season of giving and caring. Donating my time, on a day when we were off school, was a way I felt that I was giving and caring for others. It was so nice to see the smiles on people's faces when I carried the boxes of food to their cars. Most of these people couldn't carry the boxes themselves because they were handicapped or too weak. It made me feel good to be able to do this for them and the thank yous I heard, and the smiles I saw on their faces, warmed my heart.

Just recently I signed up to help out at an upcoming Cub Scout Carnival at our school. I've never been a Cub Scout, but my younger brother is and he will be working one of the booths there. By donating my time working booths and cleaning up afterwards was a way that I felt I could help out my school and give me the chance to help with something my brother is involved in. I'm proud of my younger brother for what he gets involved in and I want him to know that. Working with him at the Carnival I felt was a great way for me to show him how much I care and support him.

Aubrey's heart-touching story made an impact on me and how I live my life. I want to continue to have that affect on others throughout my life. It's definitely a goal of mine.

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to apply for this scholarship. It would be an honor to be selected as one of the lucky recipients.