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“Nothing brings me more happiness than trying to help the most vulnerable people in society. It is a goal and an essential part of my life - a kind of destiny. Whoever is in distress can call on me. I will come running wherever they are.”-Princess Diana

This quote inspires me. I try to help others as much as possible. I try to be like Princess Diana and help people whenever I am able to.

I feel that things that I've seen from my parents and others have helped me realize what it is to have an impact on people. I've seen my sick grandparents a lot in nursing homes in Cincinnati and Cleveland. While my parents had to do some hard things there, I got to see that little things mattered too - just being there, talking to other elderly people, making sure I looked like I wanted to be there. Sometimes we took my brother's Cub Scouts to sing and sometimes we took our dog. When we were little, we dressed up for a fashion show at Easter. We also visited in our Halloween costumes.

By seeing and doing these things it has helped me and motivated me to go and help other people. Student Council is one place that I have a chance to help others. I have been involved in student council every year since fourth grade and I wanted to become more involved, so in seventh grade I became the student council secretary and this year in eighth grade I became the student council president. I feel really involved in the community. We go leaf raking, have car washes, go Christmas caroling, raise money for foundations, and we try to help people and places that are in need. We also go to nursing homes where I feel my past has made the places easier to go to.

Another chance to help or impact others is as a licensed amateur radio operator. I am a member of the Queen City Emergency Net (Q.C.E.N.) and the American Red Cross. Each year I have been a monitor at one of the mile markers of the Flying Pig Marathon to watch for anyone who is hurt or needs help so we can report it and get them help. This is really important to me because they depend on me. I feel like I am a tiny part of a big group working hard to make a big event happen.

There have been chances to help others in my family. I have a cousin who was born being able to hear but then suddenly lost her hearing before she was two. She had surgery to put a cochlear implant into her head and soon after she was able to hear. She's ten now, but had an infection that repeatedly came back and she had to stop wearing her implant for long periods of time. While she wasn't able to hear I would see her and help babysit her. I would announce so she could read my lips and understand what I said so she could answer me. It is amazing how well she can read lips. After they took it out and waited a few months, she just got a new, better implant that has a remote control and she can even hook her MP3 player into - I can't wait to see her with it.

So, these chances to help have been small, but I've learned that little things can make a difference. I try to remember that in the way that I treat people every day. I expect that I'll get a lot more chances after I get to high school at Seton. So whenever I know someone needs help I will be like Princess Diana and come help them.