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The way I make people's life better, I believe, is through service. I think that people can have fun serving when they are with friends or family. Through service you can accomplish many things while helping others to feel confident, happy, or even grateful. Not only do they *feel* different, they may even *act* different too.

At school I try to serve others without being told to do so. I also attend rosary club. At rosary club meetings we make rosaries for those who are in the war, and those who are poor and hungry. In addition to making rosaries, we also pray the rosary for the people who are going to receive them. Even though I take time out of my life, I feel pleased that I am helping people get closer to God.

Since I do not get an allowance, it is harder to help out in my home. So instead, I do chores more often without being told to do so, as well as doing extra chores such as washing the dog and doing laundry. In addition, I support my grandma with her pottery by taking her pieces to art shows by taking the pottery in and out of her car trunk. Again, I am grateful to work in my home as well as at any other place.

To serve in my community, I have joined a catholic girls youth group called Challenge. In Challenge we do apostolic projects for all different types of people in the community. For example, last year we made blankets for Elizabeth's New Life Center so that new mothers could have a warm blanket for their precious babies. Furthermore, we went to Build-a-Bear Workshop and made teddy bears for the Ronald McDonald House in downtown Cincinnati. Here families can not afford toys for their sick children who pretty much live at this building. But beyond serving others in this way, we also have to have money to do these kinds of things so we have fundraisers such as bagging at Biggs and working the annual rummage sale. This is a great way to have fun while making people's day a tad bit happier.

Recently I have served in the annual St. Susanna family festival by helping run bingo in the cafeteria. In addition to the bingo game, I have also worked at the bowling booth. Serving at the festival is a great way to support the parish because then it raises money so that the church can serve others also. When Thanksgiving came around, many families prepared Thanksgiving meals for the families in the Mason area who could not afford a large Thanksgiving meal. The adults cooked the food, while the children made thanksgiving cards for the families who were going to receive the meals. I watched over the children so that their parents could focus on what they were doing -- preparing the food.

These are some ways that I have personally experienced to make other people's lives better. I think that service is an immense way to make individual lives better, happier, and easier, whether it is with children, friends, or another loved one.

*“Love cannot remain by itself-- it has no meaning. Love has to be put into action and that action is service.”*

– Mother Theresa.