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St. Vincent Ferrer School

### Aubrey Rose Hollenkamp Children's Trust Scholarship

Even at the young age of fourteen, I feel as though I've made a difference in people's lives. I feel like I've made contributions in my own little ways at home, at school, and in the community.

I try my best to make life at home easier and more enjoyable for my whole family. I baby-sit my little sister, Katie, and brother, Robby, even if it means I have to sacrifice a trip to the movies with my friends. I try to be the best big sister I can be, because I know that they look up to me, and I want to be an ideal role model for them. I help out around the house by walking the dog and assisting my dad with yard work. I help my mom plan and organize birthday parties for family members. She is the organizer and I contribute my artistic and creative ideas. We're a great team, and I'm happy that I can help out.

At school I'm determined to do my best in academics, and be a good Christian by serving others. I always try to be friendly and welcoming towards other students, and greet them with a smile in the halls. Since I'm in eighth grade, I try to be a responsible leader and set a good example for younger students. I am a staff writer for our school newspaper. In seventh grade, I assisted a local artist by helping the younger students create colorful, symbolic ceramic tiles to brighten and line our hallways. Recently, my siblings and I walked around our neighborhood with our wagon and collected hundreds of canned goods for our school's annual Thanksgiving canned food drive. We realized that the hundreds of canned food items that we collected would make another family's day brighter. We also collected gently used toys for our school's annual Christmas toy drive. I know that the toys that we collected made less-fortunate children smile.

I try my best to help out in the community. I serve at Mass, and I'm a Eucharistic Minister at our parish church. I like to visit my elderly neighbor who was recently widowed. I try to make his life easier by cleaning his home, and running small errands for him. Most of his relatives are out of town and he gets lonely, so it's nice to brighten his day and visit him. I am one of the oldest kids in my neighborhood, and it's nice to have younger neighbors looking up to me. I participate in their games of baseball, soccer, and capture the flag. I like being able to help them when they are hurt, or when they get into arguments. I try to make their games fun, yet fair, so everyone has a good time.

The way I try to make a difference is simple. I just smile and offer sweet acts of kindness whenever I can. It's a great feeling to know that I've brightened up another person's day with a simple act of kindness that shows that I care.