

## **Grace Hatfield – St. Joseph Cold Spring – Newport Central Catholic**

I feel that I have affected many people's lives throughout my own by performing service. I have done this at home and during my nine years at my grade school. I have also helped others in my community.

I have affected my family at home in many different ways. I have helped my parents by doing chores, sometimes without being asked. I also babysit my brothers, ages eleven and eight, whenever needed. I also babysit nearby relatives when asked. After school, I help my brothers with their homework and sometimes, when I'm not busy, read with the younger of the two. Whatever I am doing, I try to set a good example through my words and actions for my younger siblings. This is how I am affecting the lives of those in my own home.

During my time spent at St. Joseph, Cold Spring School and Church I have affected many more lives than I would have thought through my service. Through school, I have helped direct a service learning project along with the rest of my fellow eighth graders at St. Joseph. This year we collected over 800 jars of peanut butter and a couple jars of jelly to provide a company called Be Concerned with materials to feed the hungry. I help the third graders improve their fluency by reading with them. I recycle every week for my school by collecting paper from all the rooms and getting it to the larger collection bins. I also volunteer at parish events like the annual summer festival, Forester's Pancake Breakfast, and PTO functions like Crop-A-Lotta. I also belong to a youth service ministry called Service Stars which help the parish, along with the community. We clean the parish and school grounds, have helped with many collections for those less fortunate, made and served food at the Parish Kitchen, and we used to support Interfaith Hospitality Network, before it was closed in our area. I have affected many lives through my service at St. Joseph School, since kindergarten, and parish for as long as I can remember.

I have also helped and affected many lives in my community through my service. Since Service Stars also helps the community, I have worked, cooked, and served food at Hosea House and served and cleaned dishes at Parish Kitchen. Also with Service Stars I have worked in a food pantry, cleaned parks, entertained elderly citizens, appreciated veterans by singing for them, thanked firefighters, soldiers and police officers by sending cards, collected items for disaster relief for people in the area, collected and sent school supplies to Africa, and much more. I also belong to a group called Foresters and participated in Stuff the Bus and Feeding God's Children for many years. We collect non-perishable food items and take them by bus to the Rose Garden Mission to stock their food pantry. I enjoy helping separate and organize the shelves there. I also volunteer with Josh Cares, which is a nonprofit organization at Cincinnati Children's Hospital that raises money for Child Life Specialists to visit the hospitalized children who are alone because their family can't be with them through their full stay at

Children's Hospital. I serve on the Student Advisory Council that helps plan fundraising and activities that will benefit the children. Additionally, I have walked alongside my diabetic friend during the Walk for Juvenile Diabetes. Community service has been a great way for me to affect the lives of those around me

I appreciate the service opportunities I have had with my home, parish, school and community so far. I look forward to the next opportunities I will have to serve and affect the lives of others in high school.