

## **Cade Schreck - St. Ignatius - St. Xavier High School**

The story of Aubrey's life really inspired me when I read it. I loved how no matter what she went through with all of her surgeries she would always smile. In fact, when my parents were just dating, they remember meeting Aubrey at a St. Al's event at Harvest Home Park, and they told me just how happy she was, and the big smile she had. Even though Aubrey's life was short, she really has inspired and impacted a lot of people's lives including me. Her story has made me put things into perspective and really think about other people's situations. I should always be grateful and thankful, and when I am going through a hard time I should still try to put a smile on my face just like Aubrey did.

I think that I have impacted people's lives around me as well. One thing I have done to impact the community around me is I have done service work. A few years ago, me and some other people in my grade went with one of our teachers to different places around the area to help those that are struggling. We went to places like St. Paul's Home, The Giving Fields, Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank, etc. I really enjoyed this week of community service because I knew I was helping someone in need, and I felt like I was accomplishing something good. Another situation where I have done something to help people around me is when I'm at school. Whenever someone needs help with something at school, whether with school work, or just picking up some books they dropped, I have always tried to help everyone out. It is sometimes the small things that make people's days and make a difference. There have been several times when I just simply opened a door for someone and smiled at them to help them feel a little better that day. I think I am also seen as a trusted person and leader around the school. Whenever there is a group project or something I am doing with other people, I am always trying to set a good example and be a leader to help the group out.

I am a trustworthy person as well, and I am honest with all of my friends and family. I am actually in a program we have at my school, called Sources of Strength. About 30 to 40 students that are seen as leaders were selected by peers and teachers to take part in the program. We have meetings every month to talk about what we are going to do next to help spread our message of positivity around the school. So far we have done things such as going around and putting up signs of positivity around the school, presented in classrooms explaining who we are and what message we are trying to spread, slide shows on the TV's around the school halls to spread our positive message, and have also been on IWN, which is a video that some students produce for the school to watch every week about news around the school. Those are some things I have done to impact the many lives around me at school. I am just always trying to make the people's lives around me better especially when I can tell they are struggling.

Lastly I have impacted my family in lots of ways. Some situations where I have done that is when one of them is feeling down or stressed out. I am always there to help them through that rough time period and make them better. I always try to be positive around everyone and sometimes that is hard when my siblings annoy me, but I do really try to keep my calm to help my parents out. My parents do so much for me and I try to repay

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that by doing things like helping my little sister out with homework or reading to her. Sometimes my brother needs help, and I do stuff to help him out too.

I work my hardest at all times, and always try to be the best person I can be. I have always tried to make my parents proud of me in academics and athletics. I know that they are very proud of me and love to watch me excel in what I do. No matter what, I know they will always love me and be proud of me. I have tried to be a great person to be around, and I know that I make my entire family very happy. So, those are some of the ways I have impacted the lives of others around me in the community, at school, and with my family, and I hope to continue doing so when I attend St. Xavier next year.