

## Ashley Yontz – Saint Francis de Sales – Bishop Fenwick High School, page 1 of 2

I was excited to read about the \$500 scholarship that the Aubrey Rose Foundation is giving thirty-five lucky junior high school students who have made a difference in the lives around them. I am going to Bishop Fenwick High School in Franklin, Ohio. I am excited to grow in faith, education, and as person so I can make a difference in the world. During my entire life, I have helped others in numerous ways, some being substantial and others on the small-scale. One of the core things that I have accomplished is try to help people everywhere, regardless of who they are. I believe in not just living life, but living life for others.

In my mind, making a difference in the world starts in your community. An example of me making a difference in my community is shoveling people's drive ways. Recently, it snowed 7 inches in one day. School was cancelled and I decided to spend it helping others. I ended up shoveling 3 of my neighbors' driveways! They were extremely grateful that they did not have to shovel in the freezing weather. In addition, I brought my neighbors' trashcans in from the road to the house, so they would not have to worry about it.

I believe positivity is the key to make anyone's day. I am always nice to the people around me. Even a simple thank you for holding the door can brighten someone's day. In my humble opinion, the little things in life are the ones that stand out the most. I strive to make everyone I meet have a smile on their face while they are around me. I fondly remember how good it felt when I went out of my way to deliver a giant sunflower to my teacher, simply because that is her favorite flower. I love random acts of kindness and it is what the world needs more of these days.

I am someone who always motivates and challenges people. Due to this, my coach selected me as captain of my soccer team at Warren County Soccer Academy. I always try to set a good example with my words and actions. Also, I was awarded the "Live the Game" award, which is the most highly sought-after award. This award is granted to one player on every team who "embodies good sportsmanship, competitive drive, shows respect to self and others and continues to strive for excellence on an off the field." I treat everyone equal no matter their skill, personality, background, or talent. I like to help people break pass their limits. Whether it is at school or a sporting event, I am the one who encourages others to push a little longer. I help people exceed their limitations.

I have always loved to contribute to my community in any way that I can, especially through service. There are numerous services that I have participated in throughout my life, including volunteering at Matthew 25 Ministries. I have been there for school, sports teams, and on my own. I immensely enjoyed giving back to my community, which has given so much to me. I love being aware that the results of my

time and efforts are going somewhere it is needed most. Additionally, I had this great opportunity to help the less fortunate on Thanksgiving. While the adults cooked

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the turkeys, I put together canned goods like green beans, corn, and potatoes in boxes. I then took the boxes and put it in the people's cars. When I did this, I saw how grateful they were, which meant a lot to me. You never know how far a little act of kindness can go.

I have been in Girl Scouts for 8 years. My troop was all about giving to others. Each year, around Christmas time, we went to a local nursing home and sang Christmas carols to the people who needed assisted living. They always sang along with us and had a good time. They would always have a smile on their face and it brought me great joy. We would also give them little candy canes to make their Christmas even better. Another thing that we did as Girl Scouts was raise money for charities like Elizabeth New Life Center and the military. Even though I am no longer in Girl Scouts I hope to continue this tradition.

Serving others is a significant part of my life today and I anticipate that it always will be. When I read Aubrey Rose's story, it influenced me to keep doing acts of generosity and compassion each day and to keep serving others. I know that no matter how minor my actions may seem, they will affect the lives of others. I aim to always serve and improve the lives of others in any way that I am able. I appreciate your persistent and challenging work you have put in to make a difference in other's lives through the Aubrey Rose Foundation.