## Jolie Brausch - St. Columban - Ursuline Academy

I believe I have affected people around me at school and at home in several ways. I love to do service activities, hang out with friends and family, play sports with my friends and teammates, enjoy school with my classmates, and take advantage of the many opportunities given to me. In all of these activities I take part in, I believe I affect the people I do them with each and every time I see them. I may see the same people twice in a day, or maybe once a month, but every time I do – I try to influence them or maybe even be influenced by them.

I have affected people around me in several ways of service throughout my life. I visit Matthew 25 Ministries about 3 times a year, and I hope to do more. Every time I visit Matthew 25 Ministries, even though you can't see the people you're directly helping, you know you are truly making a difference in someone's life. Even if you're there for only an hour or 2, you could really be changing someone's life. For other service activities, I've helped volunteer at yard sales, the Amazing Race in Loveland, the festival, or even simple things like babysitting while the parents have something to do. Another service opportunity I took part in was a mini-mission trip. Every time I take part in one of these activities, I think of all the people I'm helping in the short time I'm there. I try to be as productive as possible to finish my job, then to help others finish theirs. I think that's affecting people around me because if they see how hard I may be working, then that can encourage them to keep working as well.

Throughout all of the time I spend with my family and friends, which is quite a lot, including school, sports, and at home, I try to display my actions in a positive manner, and to always be there for someone when needed. With acting like this, I try to match my attitude with it, trying to get others to be happy and joyful as well. It might take a joke or two, but I'll try it if it makes others smile.

When I'm playing sports with my teammates, whether I'm on the sideline or on the court, I'll always be loud and cheering for them. If I'm waiting to go in, you can expect me to cheer just as loudly as those on the court if we get a point. This affects others as well. If we're down a few points, and all you need is some encouragement, you can trust me to give you that, simply by cheering and yelling (good things). It can affect others to cheer just as loud, or to have faith in themselves that we're not down by a lot. Or, if they made a mistake and can't seem to get over it, just a few kind words may make their day and help them through the mistake.

At school, I believe I affect others around me in several simple ways. One, if they missed something or did bad on a quiz or test, all it may take to cheer them up would be a simple "You'll get it next time.". A few words could put someone in a better mood than their current one. Another way would be to simply not put others down, which we may all do at some point, even if we don't mean to. If you just watch what you say, then you can get better at not putting people down. These were several ways I affect others.