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I recall hearing Aubrey's story for the first time eight year ago when my older sister was filling out this very same scholarship application. The specific details were fuzzy since I was so little, but I do recall my mom saying to all my siblings that this was a good reminder that often the people that make the biggest difference in this world are not with us long enough. They also continue to make a difference after they are gone in the physical sense and it is was so very important to continue their legacy. Aubrey's story and the impact she had on others around her has been with me since that day eight years ago and I am so very grateful to her as I have tried to live that mission every day in my life.

At school, I get as involved with my peers as much as possible. Unfortunately. bullying and cheating go on at every school, including my own. When I see someone getting bullied, I don't just watch them and be a bystander. I stand up to the bully and protect the person that is getting bullied. Being an upstander is a big part of who I am. When someone is cheating on a test or is even just talking about doing it, I interject myself. I tell them that it is not the right thing to do, and even though it may not work all the time, it usually changes people from cheaters to upstanders like me. Also, at school, I try to be the best role model for my peers and those younger than me. I participate in many school activities such as being student council co-president, a member of the ambassador board, and I am on a competitive mathematics team called math counts. Working hard in every class and achieving high grades is another way I lead my classmates by example. I have a positive impact on my peers daily.

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Being involved in my community is another way I am actively affecting those around me. My two favorite service projects that I have done were volunteering at the Susan G. Comen Race for the Cure and the After-School Program at Our Lady of Victory. While volunteering at the Race for the Cure, I noticed how many people are affected by cancer in my community. By helping those people, I feel like I had lifted their spirits from the horrible repercussions of cancer. It was amazing to be a part of a group that contributed so much towards finding a cure for cancer. Volunteering at my school's After-School Program is a weekly service project I perform. I love seeing how excited the little kids are to play with an older kid like me in place of their parents who must work. I also enjoy answering their questions for their homework and teaching them new things. Volunteering is a major part of how I spend my extra time, and it benefits my community.

Aubrey's story and mission continues through me on a daily basis in the little things I do. From my life at school, home, and community, I have made a difference in the world and am committed to continuing to do so. Thank you for considering me for this scholarship and more importantly sharing Aubrey's story with me and my family.