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When you think to yourself, “Man, do I have a great life or what,” do you ever think about how many people are suffering around the world? Although Aubrey Rose may have looked like she was in a lot of pain, she managed to keep a smile on her face. She showed that no matter what you are going through, there is always good in life. Aubrey Rose is a perfect example of showing how people can be affected by a simple smile in life. She was not even old enough to understand the power of a smile, but after looking at her pictures, it is clear to me that she got it! When I see someone smiling, I get a sense of happiness and pride for life deep inside of me. I wonder why it wasn't there before. That is because of conformity inside of people. When one person shows emotions, a spark goes off inside of others, causing other people to experience the same emotions. This is why many places can be considered a sad or happy place. A couple of weeks ago, I was scrolling through my social media page and came across an advertisement about joy. It was about a person on a subway train watching a funny video. He could not stop laughing and suddenly the laughter spread throughout the train. This is exactly what Aubrey Rose did. The joy and laughter spread to each person waiting to arrive at their destination, just how her joy spread through the family, friends, and community. Aubrey Rose was a perfect example of affecting others around her in her life, and she shows us that we can do the same.

As I read about Aubrey Rose's story it helped me to reflect on my own positive impact on the community. Back in seventh grade, I signed up for peer tutoring. Little did I know, it would change me forever. I tutored a sixth grader, who didn't have a big interest in grades or school. After the first few weeks of tutoring him, that all changed.

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His grades started to improve to B's and A's, and he was finally excited about coming into school in the morning. I tried to stay as positive as possible, and helped him succeed through his sixth grade year. That showed me that something simple, like helping someone with homework and studying, can completely change someone's point of view. He went from someone who was not interested in school and grades to someone who was excited to learn and do better in school.

Another way I try to affect others around me in life, is by playing the piano. Talents can be used in so many different ways. They can be used for enjoyment for yourself and others, and even for the good of others. Everyone in this world is unique, and should be using their talents to affect others in a good, positive way. When I was in my early stages of life, age five or six, my mother signed me up for piano lessons, it was the greatest thing that has ever happened to me. Many opportunities opened up from taking piano lessons, such as piano recitals, playing in front of friends, and playing for the elderly in nursing homes. The first time I played at a nursing home I was very nervous. I did not know what to expect and how I would do. I played my songs just as usual, but something was felt different than how it felt when I played at home. I looked up to see a crowd of people all smiling, singing along, and clapping. It gave me a feeling of happiness and ambition for playing more. Their joy and happiness greatly affected me, and because of this experience, I decided to sign up and start helping out at the nursing home once a month.

The last thing I do to help people in need is a program called A.C.T.S. at my school. In the program a couple of students go and visit different places to help people

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in need. One place we go to is the St. Francis Soup Kitchen in downtown Cincinnati. We work in the kitchen, the cafeteria, and the server line to assist those who need food and water. When the people receive their food, they always have a great, big smile on their face. It makes me feel like nothing can make them sad. The other thing we are able to help with is the aftercare program at Visitation. Some children at our school can't go home right away because their parents are working. They come to aftercare to play around, draw, and have a snack. Our job is to supervise the children, play with the children, and watch over them to make sure they aren't getting into any trouble. They are always happy and love playing around with us.

My examples of service are just a few ways to reach out and help those in need. There are so many ways to get involved in the community, and really make a difference in people's lives. Aubrey Rose taught me a lot. She taught me that you never know what people are going through, so always be as positive as possible. Also, she made me realize that no matter how much time you might have on this Earth, we all have a lesson to teach, and a chance to impact others in a positive way. Your age does not matter. Aubrey Rose was two years old, and she made a huge impact on me. I will continue to use my gifts, talents, and especially my smile to make a difference in this world. Thank you for the opportunity to reflect on my service. I am happy I was able to learn about Aubrey Rose, and how she made a big difference in this world.