

### **Olivia Anderson-St.Martin of Tours-Mercy McAuley**

Impacting people's lives around me, has always been an important, essential skill of mine. It doesn't always take much effort, and it also inspires people to do the same. This world of ours is constantly changing and will never stop. That's why, it's important to try your best as a society to impact each other's lives to make a difference. It's also important to solve these problems the proper way and not to choose hatred or violence. These simple acts of kindness can and will go a long way, so it's important to be a difference in this world, and show people how it is to impact each other.

There have been many times I've impacted people's lives in life. I have gone out and raised money for the St.Jude Research Hospital Foundation and I've sold candy bars to raise money for my school. There have been times where I helped my grandpa when he wasn't doing so well. Even if it was just helping him up out of his chair or helped him get his arm into his sleeve. I have shoveled snow for my neighborhood, and have helped an elderly couple next to where I live. I have impacted people's by dedicating myself and doing what I believe in life's purpose and meaning.

In school I have impacted people to choose kind and make the world a better place. As a member of Leadership Council, I have showed people how to be a great role model and show good behavior and always have a positive attitude. I also always try to improve the school in so many different ways and try to make the environment better. As a Confirmation candidate, I have done service projects where I went with a group and picked up litter along the roads. I thought it was very inspiring and it impacted my life and others by seeing how much litter and trouble people cause the environment. As a member of St.Martin of Tours parish, I am an altar serving and impact others with my faith and knowledge of the Lord. I have used my joy and talent in performing arts and volleyball to inspire people's lives, and to always be yourself and have confidence no matter what. It doesn't take much to impact.

At home, I have impacted people all over my neighborhood. I want to become a college professor when I grow up, and as an example, I have helped tutor kids around my neighborhood. Even if it's as little as reviewing time tables or study for an upcoming test. It impacts not only my point of view on things, but their point of view on things. I babysit my little sister when my mom has to work. That impacts her, so that she's not stressing out on trying to find a certified babysitter and spend a bountiful amount of money. I have impacted so many people's lives, and enjoy what I do to make a difference in the world. Whether it be as little as picking up litter or helping people feel more confident in themselves.

Making an impact on people's lives is important, and is not that hard to do. We all have that impact on others, sometimes unintentionally, unknowingly, or even just by being who you are. When I set a clear intention to be on the lookout for ways that I can contribute, I discover them. I discover those people who are open to influence and welcome it. To be received by another feels so good. Our self-esteem and level of happiness rise from each act of generosity, and the cycle of giving and receiving enlarges, with abundant returns that enrich our lives. It is important to remember that the greatest gifts we give to others are not the material ones, but the giving of ourselves.