

Lillian Rhein- Saint Aloysius Gonzaga-Seton High School

As Luke Watson stated, "Life is better when you think about how your actions will affect others instead of how your actions will affect you." I believe that volunteering with a positive attitude can change the world, and I try to do this in my everyday life. This task may seem hard, but it has always been a priority of mine.

Throughout my school and community, I find it important to volunteer in a variety of ways. Every morning I volunteer in the preschool, assisting with drop-off. This allows me to know both the kids and parents and helps the director tremendously. That way she does not have to worry about holding the line up, making sure that all the kids get to their classroom safely.

Over the summer, I also helped at school almost every day. I helped out in many ways such as: making copies, organizing drawers, and anything else they needed. The biggest way I helped at school was with the first grade teacher, Ms. Tunnat. I helped Ms. Tunnat get her room ready and organized for the upcoming school year. I organized books, put together folders, and prepared the students' desks. This way she didn't have to spend her last month of summer at school worrying about it.

I also volunteered at the library twice a week in the summer. On Mondays, I would come in and lead reading group. At the beginning of the summer, I was assigned three buddies. We read books and did various activities together. It was amazing to see how much they changed over the few short months. One of them was not a fan of reading at first, but enjoyed it more and more as the weeks went on. On Wednesday's, I would do various chores around the library. I would remove books from the hold list, clean the computers off, and reshelve returned books. For me these were simple tasks that helped others and were very appreciative.

Helping my parents is also very important to me. My parents run the fish fry at my school, and they always need help. On Thursdays, I help prepare to-go containers. I also take orders every Friday at the Fish Fry. I love to do this because I get to be one of the reasons our Fish Fry is a great success. Also, I help take peoples' trays to their seat, bring them drinks and clean up after them when they are finished.

One of my favorite ways to change others lives is by babysitting. I enjoy doing this very much. I try to be the best babysitter so that the kids enjoy it. I like to bring crafts and games so they have fun and want me to come back. This job helps the parents in many ways too. Parents deserve to have a break, and I am always willing to help. Also, I help my cousin, who is a single mother with twins, almost every Saturday. One of my favorite things is to see how grateful she is for what I do. Making connections

with the kids is one of the things I love most about babysitting. When they get excited to see me or run up and give me hugs, it makes my day.

As you can see, I love volunteering and helping others in whatever ways I can. Doing things for others and making a difference is what I strive to do. If I can impact someone's day and make it better than I have accomplished what I set out to do. I always try to have a positive attitude and a smile. Sometimes it is the small things that mean the most.