

Lydia Rogers-Our Lady of the Visitation-Seton High School

I have always felt a strong calling to help people. My mom says I am the most compassionate of her children. I am always trying to make things better or easier for my family and friends. I don't always have the confidence to help strangers in need, but I am working on that. Recently I have been joining my classmates in an effort to give back to those in need. It feels great and I am hoping to do more.

My brother has a disability he was born with TAR syndrome. He is able to do many things other 9-year-old children do, but his arms and hands are small so sometimes he needs help. I help him get dressed if he needs me. I also help him with his toys if there are small parts. I carry his backpack if it's too heavy and help him with his homework. He often asks for my help, but many things I do before he even has to ask.

I help around the house a lot. There has been a lot more to do since my mom was diagnosed with breast cancer about 5 years ago. I unload and load the dishwasher and help make dinner. I help keep the bathroom clean and get laundry together so my mom doesn't have to. I know she appreciates my help and everything I do to make her feel better.

In school I improve moods with my funny personality and smile. I always try to keep people happy, because school is not always fun. I have trouble learning but am always looking for ways to improve while keeping a positive attitude. The things I have learned that help me I try to pass on to others. I am also a leader on the Volleyball court. I think my guidance has helped other players gain confidence and helped them have more fun while they play.

This year I joined ACTS (Association of Catholic Teenage Services). With my classmates I volunteer at the Soup Kitchen. My service helps those in needs and positively affects their lives. I was not very comfortable the first time I went, but since then I have been back and feel very good about what I am doing. Through this program I also help watch students in the After Care program at Visitation. I am trying to be a good role model to the younger kids teaching them how to be respectful and nice to others.

I feel I am affecting lives every day. Most of the time it's my family and friends, but I have helped those in need and hope I can do more when I have the chance. Thank you for offering this scholarship and giving me the opportunity to apply.