

Sarah Horn – John Paul II – Ursuline Academy

When I was seven years old, I participated in the American Girl Fashion Show. What a wonderful experience! It was there that I first learned of Aubrey Rose Hollenkamp. Her father told the story of her life. Although she lived only 3 short years, she made a positive impact on many people. I strive to make an impact on people as well.

One of the most memorable experiences occurred over the summer, when I volunteered as a counselor at Camp Stepping Stones, a summer camp for children with disabilities. At the camp, the counselors led the children in many activities such as songs, crafts, and swimming. While there, I had the privilege of working with a very special nine year old girl, Taniya. During my week at camp, we became good friends. We would make silly faces at each other, play on the jungle gym, and enjoy the outdoors. When it was our turn to go to the pool, she was so excited. Holding her in the water, she had a smile that stretched from ear to the ear. As we walked through the water, she squealed with excitement and said, "This is the best day of my life." I later learned that it was the first time she had ever been swimming. I was so happy to have been a part of it.

In my school, I am a member of SERVE, Students Engaged in Rewarding Volunteer Experiences. In this group we do many things to help people in our community, the country, and around the world. The project that I was most involved with was "Rock the Socks." Students were allowed to wear crazy socks for the day if they brought in a donation for Matthew 25 Ministries. The donations were sent to aid

the victims of the typhoon in the Philippines. Nearly every student in the school participated, wore crazy socks, and had fun. We also raised a sizeable amount of money for the people of the Philippines.

In my family, I think I have the most impact on my younger sister. As the older sibling, I know she looks up to me and I try to set a good example. I encourage her to finish her homework, complete her chores, and face any problems she may encounter. I hope to help her achieve all of her goals and be the best she can be.

These experiences have taught me many things, including an appreciation of God's blessings in my life. It has also taught me that it may only be something as simple as a smile that can have an impact. I hope to affect as many people in my life as Aubrey did.

Please consider me for this scholarship. I thank you from the bottom of my heart and double lungs!