

## **Dawson Adams - John Paul II - Saint Xavier High School**

In 2006 my sister, mother, and grandmother attended their first of soon to be many American Girl Fashion Shows. They watched the show and saw the great impact The Aubrey Rose Foundation was having on the world. The following year they decided to volunteer. They absolutely loved it and they still do. After three years of my family volunteering, I saw how much fun it was and decided to give it a try. I loved it, and have been helping out ever since. I'm looking forward to volunteering again this year.

My journey continues in my everyday life. I believe people around me will be affected by my actions no matter what I do. The tricky part is deciding whether I am affecting someone positively or negatively. This is why I do simple things like opening a door for someone, saying thank you, or just simply smiling at someone. I do these things because it lets people know that they're not alone in this world and that someone cares.

Another way that I affect people around me is through my swim team. Every day after practice, I help with the younger swimmers. I help them practice their strokes and get them ready for meets. It is so cool to see the kids smiles on their faces when they get used to the water and see that they can swim. After practice is finished, I help with putting away equipment.

At my grade school I try to help people in any and every way possible. Every morning at school after getting my things together for the day, I go downstairs and help our janitor with things like emptying the trash. Later on in the day when lunch rolls around I help with taking the trash out and keeping things in order in the lunchroom. I also help anyone who needs help with their iPad or computer at school.

This year I became involved with S.E.R.V.E. Students Engaged in Rewarding Volunteer Experiences. Here, we run different fundraisers for different organizations that help people: Matthew Twenty-Five Ministries, Christ Hospital, etc. I am currently shooting a commercial to help promote our Bags to Blankets Program. The Bags to Blankets Program uses student donated plastic grocery bags to make blankets for the homeless. Lately I have been staying inside during recess to help with cutting bags for the program.

I affect my family in many ways. As I said before, I am good with technology. Whenever one of my family members needs help with their phone, TV, or computer I am always happy to help. I also enjoy helping my younger sister with making forts and fun things like that. The thing I enjoy most that I do for my family is trying to keep everyone organized with charts and schedules.

These are a few ways I have affected people around me, in school, and at home. Thank you for considering me for the 2015 Aubrey Rose Foundation Scholarship.