

Emma Mastruserio – Saint Catharine of Siena – Mother of Mercy High School

The heartbreaking story of Miss Aubrey Rose is a tear-jerking tale. She was such a strong little girl who always managed to keep a smile on her face in every picture that I have seen. Due to her inspirational story, I try to be affective and make a positive difference in the lives of others.

I try my hardest to affect others at school in a few different ways. One way that I try to help others is on my school's sports teams. I always try to lift people up by cheering everyone on as loud as I can. In my opinion, having people back you up gives them a sense of pride and confidence. I love giving anyone that I can confidence in them. I have found out that a very simple way to give people confidence is by cheering for them and never putting my team down. I strongly dislike when people talk about their own teams and friends in a bad or discouraging way. I believe that everyone should always support each other. So I try to support everyone that I can, whether they are on my team or not.

Another way that I try to affect others is helping people in school. When someone does not understand a subject, I always volunteer to help them if I have a good understanding of that subject. I know when I do not understand something; it always helps to have a fellow classmate describe it to you. I think that having someone with the same intellectual abilities as you makes it much easier to understand. So I try to help out my classmates when I can.

I always try make someone's day better at school whether it is a student or a faculty member. In the morning I make sure that I either smile or say good morning to everyone that I see. If someone is having a bad day, I make sure to comfort them and spend some extra time around them that day. Giving someone an extra boost of confidence every day can make them a completely different person who is more secure in who they are. Being able to look forward to talking to a particular person makes getting through the school day easier. Sometimes people just need a friend.

One more way that I try to affect others around me is my class girl scout troop. We do service projects around our neighborhood and local nonprofit organizations. Also taking part in our Marian Award project has given me so many opportunities to help out the community and a chance to encompass over seventy-five service hours over the past year. The Marian Award has given me chances to apply what I have learned to helping my classmates and it has improved my patience with others.

Through my home life, I try to affect the lives of my family members by helping them around the house, sharing, and always trying to help them have a great day. I try to start out my day by giving my one or two of my family members a compliment or

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asking them what their plans are for the day. It shows that someone is interested in what they do and say. I love trying to make people have a better day. I try to help out around the house in any way that I can and make coming home after a long day of work easier for my parents. Another thing that I enjoy is giving my family member little gifts like candy bars or treats every now and then because I know it makes them happy.

I enjoy making people's lives more pleasant and sometimes all it takes is someone to. I really do think that what we say and do as an individual affects someone's life. I try to live my life according to this verse from the Gospel of John, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." If you are the good shepherd then the people that you meet every day are the sheep. What you say and do to each one of your 'sheep' means something. We do make a difference in someone's life.