

Mariah Mevers-Our Lady of Victory-Seton High School

I feel that I have affected so many people in my life. I believe that helping others and being a good Christian are the most important things to do in life. I am involved in so many activities at my school, and I always have been. It has made me want to be more involved in my church and community. I've impacted so many people in my life as much as the experiences have impacted my life. It always feels so amazing to know that I am doing some good in the world.

First, I am on the Ambassador Board at my school. We do service projects like collecting candy for the soldiers overseas, help out at local organizations like Crayons to Computers, collect money to donate to Pregnancy Center West, hold food drives, and our school has caring and sharing days. Every kid at this school gets a chance to bring food to go to the food pantry at our school. We all help each other come up with new ideas as well. The Ambassador Board gives everyone the opportunity to give back to the community, and to contribute in the world. It is fun, I get to help several people, and I love being a part of it.

Next, I am in National Junior Honor Society. Every member must have service hours every quarter, and I would do this service even if I didn't have to have service hours. Service gives me amazing experiences, and it feels great to know how much I am doing for other people. This gives me the opportunity to volunteer at the After School Program at Our Lady of Victory. I help kids with their homework, give them someone to talk to, and spend time with, and I help them learn right and wrong. I love being there with them because they always make me smile and laugh, and the workers appreciate my help. They tell me that they really love having me there, and they tell me I do well with the kids. Also, I made a project with a partner on charities in Ohio for Open House, and I also gave tours for families who wanted to look at the school.

I am involved in the school musical as well. It has always been a great experience for me, and everyone in the show. As one of the older kids, I help the younger kids. I am there for them when they're scared or they need any help with memorization, and I lift them up and try to help them. Some kids will get to show night, and they will get super nervous that they're going to mess up. So, I tell them that it is alright if they mess up because no one would know, and they will still be amazing. Also, I tell them about my personal experience, and I tell them that the first time is scary. They'll get the hang of it, and I'll always be there to help them. I met a girl in the show, it was her first year, and she was scared out of her mind. I told her that everything would be fine, and that she would be amazing. I also told her it can be a little scary, but to just act like it was just the directors and the cast of the show. That calmed her down a little bit, and she thanked me for helping her. She told me she felt much better after that. I feel like a mentor for these younger kids, and it feels great. It is one of the best feelings I've ever had.

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I even help clean up in the teacher's classroom at the end of the day. I know that it isn't fair that she has to pick up our garbage that we leave, so I offered a helping hand. I also try to help kids to cheer up. One of my friends was feeling down because some of her friends wouldn't leave her alone for one tiny mistake she made, so I sat down with her and talked to her about it. I told her not to worry about it, and that she can always talk to me about anything if she needed. I did what I could to lift her up.

I was in the Environmental Club for a few years. We did a lot of things to help make the school grounds look nicer. We picked up garbage in the parking lots and around the church, cleaned up the grounds after the school festival, and picked all the weeds out of the garden. We even went to the landfill one year to learn about dangers to the environment. We learned that we need to recycle to prevent too much pollution. We helped in so many ways. It was a fun club to be involved in.

Also, I am involved in a lot of sports at school. I play soccer, volleyball, and softball. No matter which sport I am playing, I give it my all, and I support my teammates. Sometimes, we start to get discouraged, and I try to cheer them up. I tell them that they can do this and we win as a team and lose as a team. I always try to give them confidence when they lose it. That is the most important thing when you're on a team in my opinion.

Finally, I help out around the house. I help set the dinner table, load and unload the dishwasher, and water the plant. I occasionally help cook dinner. I like being able to help my parents and benefit them in any way possible. All I want to do is be there for them and help in any way I possibly can. I put my things away when I'm asked. I even shovel the driveway when it snows without being asked, and I laid salt down on the driveway. It took a long time, but it was worth it to look at the smiles on their faces. Doing service for others makes me feel amazing, and it affects the people I help. It not only impacts them, but it impacts me too.