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Someone never knows how much little things mean to a person until they witness it themselves. That is exactly what happened to me. In the middle of sixth grade, I had the amazing opportunity to work as a “buddy” at the Joe Nuxhall Miracle League Fields. It was early in the morning, and I thought we would just arrive, help put with the other kids, and leave, but it was so much more. As soon as I arrived, we were greeted by a woman with her son who was participating in the program. We later met our buddies and they sent us off into the field to start practicing pitching. I will never forget the smile on her face when she saw us. Madison was a girl whose smile could brighten the room. Her spirit was so positive and it was amazing. The game flew by and I was sad to see her leave my side. It was about an hour later when I felt this force grab my waist. She did not want to let go and she stood with me for hours while I spoke with her mother. It was finally time to leave and I had to say goodbye to Madison. The words that then came out of her mother’s mouth will stick with me forever. “I have never seen her this happy, thank you.” These words meant a lot to me because I knew that I made that little girl very happy. Madison inspired me to help more people around the Cincinnati area. I got more involved in the Helping Hands program at my school and I could not be happier to have made that decision. Making a difference in people’s life gives me a rush of joy and excitement because I know that even the little things can make a big difference. Knowing that I may have made a person’s day makes my day. These experiences have showed me that there are always more people that you can help and to never stop helping people.

Volunteering should be in everyone’s future. Knowing that you may have changed a person’s life, pushes you to do more things to help out the world. In the future, I hope to work with more children who have not had the privilege to do things that some of us take for granted. When I am older, I hope to get involved with or start a program where I can take children to different places and do different things with them that they have not gotten the opportunity to do. I want to inspire other people to make a difference and to do little things for anyone in need.

I have done many other things with the smaller children in our church. Almost every weekend, I mentor the younger servers and teach them how to serve in church. I love watching them grow their relationship with God and seeing their smiling faces when they finally succeed. I have also had the opportunity to help and support younger children in sports. Having been a gymnast for about nine and a half years, I got the opportunity to help “judge” competitions and help them improve and learn new routines and skills. Gymnastics is a challenging sport, so being able to be a part of their gymnastics career is huge. When they finally accomplish what they were working so hard to do, they get a rush of joy and it makes me happy seeing them accomplish something that they love. Knowing that I helped them accomplish something so big to them, makes me feel that I have gone a step forward in helping make a difference in someone’s life.

Witnessing changes in people’s lives is something everyone should try to do because maybe it could change your life too.