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I believe I have had the opportunity to impact others in my family, school, and community. My inspiration comes from my youngest brother, Alex. Alex has Down Syndrome, which is a genetic disorder caused by three copies of the 21st chromosome. I was 6 years old when my brother was born and I didn't fully understand what his disability was, but over the past few years, I have come to understand the challenges that he faces. Through understanding his challenges, I have found opportunities to help Alex and others like Alex. I have learned to be patient and understanding of others who aren't like me. I also strive for inclusive behaviors whether it be in the classroom or in sports. The world is full of different types of people, which make us unique and we as a community should learn from each other while accepting our differences. I have given time over the past 2 years advocating and supporting the Down Syndrome community as a volunteer. I support the Buddy Walk which raises money for the Down Syndrome community of Greater Cincinnati. This past year we raised over 750 thousand dollars to support programs and events for individuals with Down Syndrome. I have also had the opportunity to help my brother Alex, and others with disabilities engage in Special Olympics and TOPSoccer programs. I go with my brother to these activities and help him and other children participate as a student volunteer. Physically it can be hard for my brother, and I find joy in seeing him and others like him smile when they are able to reach his goals.

I also help others at my school in a variety of different ways. The first example is through my role as a server and a eucharistic minister. I invest time in church as a leader in mass through these roles and hope this inspires the younger children at school to become servers and eucharistic ministers. The second way I help others at school is through my leadership role on Nativity's FLL Lego Robotics team. As part of this role, I help coach new members on coding basics and how to use the Design Thinking Process for innovation. My last example is focused on academics. I have a passion for math and history, and I have been able to help others understand some of the challenges they face in these subjects. I do this through the homework club and in class. Math wasn't always easy for me but now, through hard work, I am doing well, and I hope to inspire others to like math as well.

Perhaps one of the most rewarding ways that I give back to others is to my Family. As I am the oldest of my 3 other siblings, I take time to help my 3 younger siblings with their homework and provide advice as they navigate their grade school experience. I also take time to help them with soccer, lacrosse, and

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basketball skills. I really enjoy helping them and seeing them succeed. I have also had the opportunity to help others in my community by volunteering at Mathew Ministries, St Vincent DePaul, and Catherine's Kids Club. I enjoy participating in activities that help provide for others less fortunate. It helps me to appreciate that everyone has different challenges in life and if I can help make a difference by donating my time to help just a little, it can go a long way.

Overall, I am very fortunate to have the opportunity to help others in my family, community, and school. It inspires me to be a better person and look at the world as one big community in which I can make a difference. I look forward to many more opportunities in my high school career to give back to others.