

Sophie Meinhardt Memorial Scholarship 2017

Georgia Schaefer

St. Jude

How My Talents Can Make a Difference

How do my talents benefit others? I don't ask myself this question very often, but I am now. I have found a way to use my talents to help others look good, feel better, and stay warm.

I knit hats and sell them to my family and friends. I was making hats a few months ago and decided I wanted to find a charity to donate some of the money to. I knew I wouldn't have a lot of money to donate, so with the help of my cousin's wife I decided to use the money to buy yarn and make a bunch of baby hats to donate to a hospital.

I spent a lot of time searching for places to donate the hats, but most hospitals wouldn't accept this type of donation. Finally, I found a hospital that would take my hat donations. Good Samaritan Hospital takes the hats that I wanted to donate. Every baby born at Good Samaritan Hospital gets a hat from the hospital. They don't always have enough hats so they have volunteer hat crafters that make and donate hats.

When I went to donate the baby hats the volunteer director told me she was very impressed with the quality of my hats and my age. Because she liked the hats so much she asked if I would become one of the hat crafters. The volunteer director explained the age requirement for being a crafter is fourteen years old. Because I am only 12 years old and the hats were so well made she would make an exception for me. She came up with a nickname for me, she called me her "Junior Crafter." She asked if I would be willing to make and donate chemotherapy hats for some of the cancer patients also. Of course, I said yes.

I found a way to use my crafting talent to benefit others. Sometimes it is difficult to make a difference but with the right people helping and supporting you, it is possible. Having the right people support you makes it a lot more fun and easier to succeed. The most important thing I learned is, just because I am young doesn't mean I can't make a difference. I also learned helping others makes me feel good.