

## Sophie Meinhardt Memorial Scholarship 2019

How has the gift you received from God been put to use for the benefit of other persons?

God gave me many gifts, but if I had to choose one it would be that I am caring. I use this gift very often, and it means so much to me. It means I can show a display of kindness and generosity to others. I love having this gift because I can always be helpful and care for others. I believe this gift brings joy to others when they are sad. I can talk to them and they feel better. I love having the feeling of cheering someone up when they are feeling down.

My father started a charity golf outing for a west side family that is going through a crisis, and is in need of emotional and financial support. Sadly he died 10 years after the golf outing started. I want to be just like him. He set an major example for me. I help every year at the golf outing and help make money for each cause. I sell tickets, and run a game there. Losing my father was very hard, so I know how it feels to lose someone you feel so close to, but in reality you are not. The golf outing still goes on every year, but the best part isn't playing games or eating the amazing dinner, it is seeing the looks on peoples faces after hearing how much money we raised for them. It is the best feeling in the world!

My mother was diagnosed in 2009 with Multiple Sclerosis. She is often very tired. This means that some days when she does not feel well, or it is bothering her, I help around the house. Therefore cook dinner, clean the house, or care for my moms' needs. I love the feeling that when she was down I did a little chore, and she was filled with happiness. I feel fulfilled in the gift God gave me when I care for her.

My mom encourages me to use my gift from God too. She led an example for me when she bought a burger and drink for a homeless person we saw on the street. So, on my own time my friends and I went out and collected can goods for the homeless. The next day we delivered them to a shelter. Also, every year I try to remember to ask for money for my birthday for the homeless, or for cancer. These experiences helped me realize my gift from God. I thank God for all of my gifts, but this one the most.