

Sophie Meinhardt Memorial Scholarship 2020 Application Application #2
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I have used my gifts of God for a lot of things but one stands out a lot. About two years ago, there was a kid that used to go to our school named Athen. The kid had a lot of problems fitting in and got bullied a lot by the kids in his grade. Athen was a good kid and he always looked on the bright side of things. One day during the school year, Athen was getting picked on at the lunch table by a group of jerks from his class (they don't go here anymore). Athen wasn't great at defending himself and just sat there and took it. A friend and I, who were sitting at another table near the one he was sitting at, saw that he was being bullied by those kids. He asked me, "What should we do Royce, those kids are bullying him?" I just stared at him, smiled, and got up. He took that as a hint that we were gonna stop this at once. So, my friend and I went over to the table and offered Athen to come and sit with us. His face lit up with gratitude and he said, "Sure." He got up and sat with us. The person that works in the cafeteria caught wind of the incident and ordered them to go to the office. We had Athen sit with us for about two weeks until he said that he can stand up to them himself. The bullying seized finally.

After that school year, Athen left to go to an Oak Hills school where his parents felt comfortable he wouldn't get bullied. Athen and I became really good

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friends. He would tell me about how great his new school is and how he has so many friends and that he's the star of the basketball team now. Everytime he would talk about how great his new school is, it would bring me a tear of joy to my eye that the kid actually found friends that could accept him for who he is.

This shows that the littlest thing can impact someone's life so much. It might be hard to gain the courage to do that but it might change someone's life if you do. Bullying is bad and the only way to stop it is by standing up for those who are being bullied. We need more people in the world that can stand up for what is right and stop bullying because it could change someone's life. You can even save someone's life by stopping bullying. Kids who are bullied are two to nine times more likely to try to consider suicide than the regular person. So, the message here is, use your kindness to stop bullying and the littlest things can create big outcomes.