**What have you done to make your school or your community a better place?**

**The word limit is 350, can you please help shorten this? Thank you.**

Growing up with a brother with autism, my parents were always giving their all so he could get the education he deserved. During elementary, I was always accompanying him to attend his tuitions and remedial sessions. I had always seen his struggles when trying to grasp an academic concept and his teachers being very patient to teach him the multiplication table. However, as we grew older, I’ve seen teachers giving up on him, rejecting him from attending their classes and kicking him out of tuition centers because he was not able to catch up. Since then, I believe that everyone has the right to achieve what they deserve despite of their backgrounds and disabilities.

During sophomore year, I decided to join Streetizens, a community service club that aims to help children from less fortunate backgrounds academically. I decided to be a part of this community as I see my brother in the faces of these children I’m helping. I believe every child has the right to receive the knowledge they deserve despite their disabilities or socioeconomic status. As a member of Streetizens, I had a role to teach a group of students. However, helping them didn’t come easy. Initially, a girl refused to study English as she hated the subject despite having an upcoming exam next week. However, through persuasion and small games with her, she eventually showed eagerness in learning English.

The following week when I came back to teach, she showed me her results and she scored eighty out of one hundred and told me that was the first time she passed. Even though I’m not helping in a large scale and it was not a perfect score, she thanked me and said that she now has the motivation to be more attentive during her English class. This small act might not change the world but I knew this was important for her and changed her world. This also leads me to my next participation in the Supervised Study Program, a program where I was recruited to be a mathematics mentor and teach middle school students with learning difficulties and teach in PEACE (Psycho Educational Assessment Center of Excellence) helping the development of special needs kids.

At a ripe age of seventeen, I can’t do as much as a student, I won’t pretend I have a lot to offer, but I always had the something in me that wanted to see everyone achieve their knowledge they desire. In the future, by learning the building blocks of starting a business, I hope to build schools with inclusive education because through sharing our imaginations into special needs kids world who’s experience we may not understand, we learn to bond, empathize and grow ourselves.