There are times throughout an individual’s life where they will be given the chance to become an agent of change in the world. Helping to ameliorate the world is not only about developing various skills and becoming a leader in the community. It is about giving back to our society and setting an example for future generations. Our learning team would love the opportunity to give back in this way and our variety of experience will provide a unique understanding to better serve your needs.

*“I’m a former caseworker of the Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority (MHMRA) of Harris County. There, I directly interfaced and supported populations with indigence and/or intellectual disabilities. These individuals and their families are very often in dire need of resources and information... it is critical that sources of help like MLF offer “ease of access” to what they can provide. I'm personally interested in the outcome of this project.” -Gena*

*“In the past years, I was constantly involved with children who had been diagnosed with terminal illnesses and often, had mental and physical disabilities. As part of the Make A Wish program, these children could qualify to fulfill their lifetime wish, which often included visiting Orlando’s theme parks such as Disney, Sea World, and Universal Studios. I was granted with the most amazing opportunity in which I would interpret for them in Spanish or French, depending on their native language, throughout their visit to these parks. I have never learned so much about others, and myself, before this experience. With time, I could identify necessities that these kids and their families had before they even asked for something. It helped me view the world in a different way, where the most important factor was that these families had the best times of their lives and had no worries during their stay. -Nancy*

*“I have volunteered to work full-time for an entire year within the AmeriCorp City Year program. This experience combined with the experiences of my fellow group members provides us with a meaningful prospective when it comes to this particular project. It is my belief that this unique insight and familiarity with nonprofit work make us the best choice for the Mary Lee Foundation” -Matthew*

*“Throughout my life I have found a constant love for serving others and a gift in working with special needs. My experiences have come in many forms the first being a child in a home that fostered children. Growing up with foster kids taught me to understand different needs and levels of functionality. In middle school I started going on mission trips where I would work with inner city children and special needs adults in different parts of the country. In high school I also worked as a teacher’s aid in the special education lab and living skills class. The last five years I have worked technical support working with probationers and parolees, many that are struggling with poverty and special needs with limited technical skills.” -Maggie*

Each member of Team 3 has shared their own personal experiences and histories of helping people with special needs. We all identify with the mission of the Mary Lee Foundation and genuinely want to help manifest that mission.