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What Drives Me

I have always been a person with a great deal of drive. Since I was a little girl, I've wanted to help others and make this world a better place to live, beginning with my own community. When I was seven, I started a charity called Cookies for CAP to raise funds for Lower Columbia CAP. My family, friends, and sponsors chipped in to help me purchase ingredients, bake cookies, and sell them to raise funds. Each year, I asked CAP what their greatest needs were. One year, CAP was low on toiletries so we used our funds to buy thousands of hygiene products. Another year, we wanted to help a high-poverty St. Helens Elementary by buying them gym and music supplies with our funds. We also purchased back-to-school clothes for foster children, similar to the Salvation Army Angel Tag program. I really liked that I was just a kid helping other kids. Some years, I got to meet the kids I was helping and I realized that they didn't deserve the misfortunes they deal with every day. This year, I focused on homeless services, because homelessness is currently an enormous problem here. In the past ten years, I have raised over \$13,000 for CAP. In 2013, I was recognized nationally by Family Fun magazine which donated \$1,000 to my cause.

While I've made an impact on my local community, my ultimate goal is to make a positive impact on the world. Inclusivity, diversity, equality and protecting our environment are the issues that are most important to me. Malala Yousafzai, Greta Thunberg, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg are my inspirations. These people have made incredible changes and I feel the responsibility that I should do my part in making changes too. That is why I aspire to become a political leader one day. I will lead through the example of these powerful women. I hope to fight for climate change, and the constitutional rights of minorities all over the world.

In my drive to do great things, I know I need to first become a great person. I have been a member of our school's leadership class for the past four years. In this class, I've helped to plan several charitable drives. I am also a member of FBLA, DECA, Debate Club, as well as being the President of International Club. I also like to compete in soccer, basketball, and track. I have recently been nominated as a member of King's Court which is decided by those who have excelled in serving their school and community.

My aspiration in life is to make a positive impact on the world through spreading compassion and love. I will accomplish this goal by attending Willamette University in the fall and study political science, then pursuing a law degree. I have been accepted into the Willamette's Law School Bound program.

Achieving my drive and fulfilling my goals will not be easy or inexpensive. I appreciate your consideration in helping me pursue my dreams.