

How I demonstrate Horizon's mission outside of camp:

Attending Horizon has made me realize my passion for community service. Since attending camp I have been chosen to be the student leader of community service at my school. I have invited people from camp to give presentations at my school in order to encourage people to volunteer. I keep in contact with many people from camp, often visiting them at their group homes. Because of Horizon, I have been inspired to expand my volunteer services to other charitable organizations. I have volunteered at: animal shelters, walking and playing with the animals; local nursing homes, assisting the residents in playing bingo and bunko; the local Duathlon, passing out water to the runners; and the packathon, making bags for those participating in the Chicago Marathon. Many of these opportunities I would not have even entertained had I not been inspired by Horizon. I also organized a coat drive at my school and donated all of the proceeds to the United Methodist Church of North Judson, Indiana, a program that reaches out to lower income families in the area.

How I have contributed to Horizon:

As many others, I contribute to Horizon by attending camp every summer since I have turned 15. This upcoming summer will be my fourth year attending camp. In addition to my time at camp, I attend as many camp fundraisers as I can and sell raffle tickets every year. I helped with recruitment and Lincoln Park High School, sharing my experiences with perspective volunteers. I am planning to be able to attend more functions, since I will be a college student in Chicago and will be in closer proximity to many of the functions.

Why should I receive the Horizon Hope Grant?

I am aware that there are several people deserving of this grant, however, I like many others will be a struggling college student come this fall. I have applied for many scholarships to help defer the costs of my continued education. To receive the Horizon Hope Grant would mean a great deal to me, for it is an organization near and dear to my heart, has made me a better person, and awoke a passion in me for helping others. I will continue to be a part of the Horizon family for many years to come and while away at college I will continue to spread the word of this great organization in hopes to make it even better.