

# Senior High Testimonials



# Bishop Carroll Students Volunteer Because...

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I have volunteered with LINKages in the past and it has been an enjoyable – and humbling – experience. Overall, this has been an eye-opening experience and I have really enjoyed the chance to meet new, interesting people.

- Grade 11 student

I have found the LINKages Program challenges me to connect and become friends with a senior. I find the relationships developed on both sides are very beneficial. I have learned a lot from my senior partners and the experience helped me to develop a friendship with someone I normally wouldn't bond with.

- Grade 11 student

I became friends with my senior when I was in the program last year. It is very rewarding to be friends with a senior and to be able to contribute to their life.

- Grade 11 student

I have volunteered with LINKages for four years and this has been a rewarding experience. I've had some wonderful relationships with the seniors I have met through this program. I've learned to be patient and understanding of difficulties.

- Grade 11 student

I have heard good things about the program from other student participants.

- Grade 10 student

I have volunteered with LINKages for four years - I absolutely love the program! I love how friendly the seniors are – there's so much you learn and relate to them.

- Grade 11 student

I participated in the LINKages Program last year and found it very fulfilling. It was fun and I learned a lot – I hope I can continue in the program this year!

- Grade 11 student

I am interested in becoming more involved in the community. I believe I would enjoy spending time with a senior and getting to know someone who's not my age.

- Grade 10 student

## Dr. E. P. Scarlett Volunteer Because...

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I volunteered with LINKages last year and I really enjoyed it – we really connected with our senior and we became pretty close. Overall, this was a great experience!

- Grade 11 student

I gained a wonderful relationship through this program last year. Wisdom most definitely comes with age and my senior was always able to offer amazing advice. She also loved to tell us stories about her own life experiences. Overall, this was an amazing experience! The bond that you can forge with a senior is priceless. I feel good to be able to give back to someone who needs – and appreciates - it.

- Grade 11 student

I hope to be a companion who is supportive to the seniors and who also helps make them comfortable talking with us. I believe I can also learn from the seniors.

- Grade 11 student

I have received positive feedback from several friends who volunteered in this program. I am interested in an opportunity to give up some time for someone else. I would also like to contribute to the community by brightening up someone's day.

- Grade 11 student

I want to add joy to the life of an otherwise lonely senior. We both have so much to offer each other and I would like to learn from their life experiences. Perhaps I would also be able to team them something, or help them learn something from me

- Grade 11 student

I enjoy the chance to volunteer as I feel I have certain responsibilities to society. Even though I was not born here in Canada, I believe that our world is one big community and I'm willing to help the Canadian seniors with my best effort.

- Grade 11 student

My mom used to volunteer by visiting with a wonderful senior once every week. When I went with her, the senior was very nice - she called me "Granddaughter". She would tell me stories about her son and what life was like when she was young I saw the loneliness in her eyes and I want to make seniors' lives full of excitement.

- Grade 11 student

## Father Lacombe Students Volunteer Because...

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I hope to experience a new and exciting activity. I also wanted to make a lot of friends at the care centre and I especially hope to make friends with a senior.

- Grade 10 student

This is a great experience to enrich my own life, as well as someone else's. I hope to gain new skills and relationships from the program. At present, I often visit with my Grandparents and I love hearing their stories and talking with them about life.

- Grade 10 student

I want to contribute to the community and to my part to help someone. I also value the chance to spend time with someone outside my age range.

- Grade 10 student

I believe this program is a good way for me to give back to the community. Also, I believe that volunteering in the program will help me to become a better person.

- Grade 10 student

## St. Francis Students Volunteer Because...

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I would like more volunteer experience and I would also like to provide some much-appreciated company to elderly people. I think the students – and the seniors – can benefit from this experience.

- Grade 11 student

I really believe this program is beneficial to me and the senior. I have volunteered with LINKages before, and I am really excited to be involved again! I had so much fun last year – my senior had so many stories to tell us, it was amazing. I love the things I can learn from my senior - I hope to gain a similar relationship this year!

- Grade 10 student

I love being around people and I like to meet new people. I am friends with people of all ages and I enjoy listening to and telling stories. I am close with all of my Grandparents and I hope to learn a thing or two from a senior in the care centre.

- Grade 10 student

I would really appreciate an opportunity to learn from the elders that I would be partnered with. As I lost my Grandparents at a young age, a part of that relationship is missed!

- Grade 11 student

I have volunteered with LINKages in the past and I have had a great time. Last year, my partner and I got along very well with two seniors – as well as a few more seniors that often played games with us. We talked, played games and joked with each other. Having two senior friends kept the conversation going and they became real friends – we laughed a lot! I also like to talk about things, so it was fun to bring up topics that we could debate.

- Grade 12 student

I enjoy spending time with seniors, as I believe the knowledge and understanding of hardships in life will contribute to my well-being. Visiting with seniors bridges the gap between generations and I have become a more compassionate person. I value friendships with the elderly, as they have much to offer to the youth of today.

- Grade 10 student

## Western Canada Students Volunteer Because...

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I've been volunteering with seniors for four years and I lived with my Grandma for three years, until she passed last year. I would like to participate in the program because I would like to bring more happiness and care to those lonely seniors, like my Grandparents. I would like to listen to their stories and I think I'd learn a lot from this experience, including building my social skills. I also know that I could make others' lives happier!

- Grade 11 student

I want to learn something new and make a new best friend. I also want to give my time to the seniors because I know they have given to the community – and so I want to do the same. I also hope to learn many new things from this experience.

- Grade 11 student

I am interested in making friends with seniors - I believe seniors, in particular, need others' attention and care. I lived with my Grandparents before I immigrated to Canada and they cared about every aspect of my life – I still talk to them when I can. It's important to me that I provide the care and attention that seniors deserve.

- Grade 11 student

I believe everyone can make a difference – in this program, I brighten someone's life. This opportunity makes me happy because, as the seniors have already spent their lifetime serving the community, I think it is important for us (young people) to give something back to them. I volunteered with LINKages in Grade 8 and 9 and I will never forget the way the seniors smile when they see you, or how they talk so excitedly about their past. This experience has made a great impact on my life – it allows you to think more about others, rather than yourself. .

- Grade 11 student

I want to learn from seniors (their experiences, their lives and their emotions) in order to better understand the older generations and their contributions to the younger generations. Also, learning to understand someone else can help me to understand myself and my role in life.

- Grade 11 student