

Volunteer of the Year  
Mary Grace Williams  
Quota International of East Memphis  
1-5-2010

Before I joined Quota I saw the good in how Quota Club of East Memphis helped the Hearing Impaired Community, especially at White Station Elementary. I wanted to be a part of the work that was being done so I joined after I graduated from high school.

After being a long term patient at Lebonheur Children's Hospital, I realized there was a real need for support programs and entertainment for older patients. Many teens with chronic conditions, like me, are sometimes hospitalized for weeks-even months at a time. I joined the Lebonhuer Teen Council and now am a mentor for the team. We proposed a teen room for teens to come and play video games, check out age appropriate movies and books, and to gather and develop friendships with other patients. Our proposal was met enthusiastically by the administration and a new teen room was opened.

I also volunteer four days a week at White Station Elementary. I work in the classrooms. With the kindergarten students and first grade, I help reinforce reading skills by listening to the children read their weekly stories. I feel my presence in the school has motivated students to work harder to achieve their goals. I try to set a positive example of determination and cheerfulness despite obstacles that we sometimes face in life.

I may have limitations but there are many things I can do to serve. I have been blessed by the people I have met through Lebonhuer, Quota Club and WSE.

*Mary Grace Williams*