

THE Importance of **Caring**

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my journey into volunteering



Hailey Spike

CHILD CARE CENTER VOLUNTEER

Hailey Spike was no stranger to working with children before she started volunteering at Columbus Community Hospital's Child Care Center — she has babysat for several years and loves being around kids.

"I decided to become a volunteer at CCH because I wanted to help my community and get hands-on experience at a hospital," Spike said. **"I have enjoyed seeing different aspects of the hospital."**

She became interested in health care because she enjoys helping people. **"I watched medical shows growing up, and members of my family are nurses,"** Spike said. **"I admire how they help others. I care about volunteering because I want to fulfill a life that would make Jesus proud of me, and I'm glad to do this type of volunteering because working with the little kids is extra fun."**

Spike is part of the VolunTEEN program — a way for teenagers in the Columbus community to get involved in the hospital.

"Being a part of the VolunTEEN program is beneficial to me because it gives me the chance to see what it would be like working in health care, considering that I

want to work in it when I get older," Spike said.

Before she started at the Child Care Center, she volunteered at the information desk for five months. **"Being a volunteer at the hospital is important to me,"** she said, **"because it allows me to serve my community and explore my options of careers in health care."**

At the Child Care Center, Spike plays with children and assists the teachers. **"I enjoy playing with the younger children and meeting new people there,"** she said. **"One memorable experience I had was playing cars and reading books with a 3-year-old, because he was having so much fun."**

When she is not at the Child Care Center, Spike helps run the hospital's Little Free Library by making sure there are enough books and reading logs inside the box. Spike is a freshman at Scotus Central Catholic High School; she had the idea to volunteer because it was a way to fill up her summer.

"I am too young to get a job, so I focused on becoming a volunteer," she said. **"CCH has been supportive by making sure to**

communicate everything with me and helping me if I have any questions."

From volunteering at CCH, Spike has been able to expand her social skills, work with people of all ages and strengthen her time management skills.

"My advice for others who are interested in volunteering is to do it!" she added. **"It is a great opportunity to see what it would be like to work in health care."**

In Spike's free time, she enjoys reading, playing basketball, playing softball and spending time with her friends.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities available at the hospital, visit columbushosp.org.