

Difference Maker

Developing Difference Makers
with True Hearts of Service

Program

“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5: 14 -16

Our Difference Maker students truly stepped out to be His light in our community this year, shining His love and care to those in need. They pointed people to Jesus through service, seeing others through His eyes and taking action to bless and support them. Each student was willing to give their time and talents in big ways to bring these projects to fruition. We are incredibly proud of our 2019-2020 Difference Makers!

As our year comes to a close, we would like to share some GOOD news about what God has been doing through our students this past semester!



Hoag Hospital Bible Project: Kiana Giunta, 8th grader, raised just over \$1,000 through a middle school bake sale to purchase bibles to give to patients in hospitals. Her heart was to provide encouragement and hope through God’s word to those enduring longer stretches of time in the hospital. Kiana was able to partner with Hoag Hospital’s chaplain program, and through her generous donation, they will be able to purchase 100 bibles to give to their patients! Hoag Hospital was so thankful for Kiana’s generosity they will be featuring her in a social media story for their foundation!

Scrunchies of Joy: Lilly Thurston and Sophia Hill, 8th graders, sold hand-made scrunchies throughout the school year at bake sales, the Christmas boutique, and Grandparent’s Day to purchase bus passes for the homeless in our community. Overall, Lilly and Sophia were able to purchase 85 bus passes on their own, and they also donated \$215.00 to Lighthouse Outreach in Costa Mesa to allow them to purchase additional bus passes as well as groceries for those in need. These girls worked tirelessly the entire year to provide a true lifeline for people in need of shelter. Well done!





HOPEful Art: 7th graders Belle Jones, Terry Stocke, and Ashley Turner held a middle school art drive to collect original student artwork to both brighten up hospital waiting rooms and encourage children in local hospitals. Our middle school students designed specific artwork and cards for this project, and the girls were able to send a

bursting-at-the-seams package of MCS artwork to Children's Hospital Los Angeles!

While not all of our students were able to complete their projects this year due to current circumstances, we are excited for the Difference Maker projects moving forward into next year, including supporting and growing the Project Giving Light art program with Skyview Elementary led by Hudson Dexter, a middle school prayer training and community prayer outreach led by Ashley Gundlach, and more.

If you have been inspired by the projects these students have completed this year, and you feel God putting a community need on your heart, we encourage you to consider applying for the 2020-21 Difference Maker program! The Difference Maker program is open to students grades 4 through 8, and applications will be available through Wednesday, May 20th through this link:

<https://forms.gle/z3wYXYSb5WA1RvYQ9>

If you have any questions about Difference Maker, please reach out to Katie Niles at kniles@marinerscs.org or Angela Drevlow at adrevlow@marinerscs.org.