

Everyday Angels

By Minerva Pineda-Allen

There are many different types of people who provide Peace through Service.

People who provide peace through service are those who devote their lives to helping others, for example, a police officer, firefighter, teacher and charity organizations.

Another great example of an organization that provides a service to others is the Lions Club International Foundation. This organization is a wonderful resource for people who are Visually Impaired and helps to reduce blindness through eye care and awareness. In my school district, our local Lions Club will do vision screenings for students and help identify any concerns with their vision. For example, if a student fails their vision screening, they can talk with their parents to see an eye doctor to get eye glasses, etc.

When I was younger, I demonstrated bringing Peace through Service because I testified at a hearing to help advocate for Texas Senate Bill 39 in the 83rd Legislative session. This bill helped students with visual impairments or Deafblindness in Texas receive an Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Evaluation for special education. Therefore, this bill made it mandatory for students with a visual impairment to receive an O&M evaluation by a certified orientation and mobility specialist. This bill was passed and signed into law by the Governor on June 14, 2013. I thought it was a very important cause, because I was helping others receive the care and services they need to succeed. I use a white cane for safely traveling in my environment, and it has given

me freedom to travel independently. Therefore, I want other students with visual impairments to receive the right services.

Although Peace through Service can come from organizations, a person who lives their everyday life just as an average person, going to work or school just like everyone else can also provide Peace through

Service. You don't have to be a part of a huge organization to provide Peace through Service. As I said earlier, someone who provides Peace through Service is someone who devotes their life to help others, meaning really anyone can provide Peace through Service.

Think of the people in your life that have helped you in some way. Did you think of a parent? A teacher? A friend? A sibling? What about people who help out during emergencies such as a fire or someone being severely injured? These are all different people in your life and others' who provide Peace through Service. As my mom said, "These people are everyday angels."

In conclusion, Peace through Service can come in many different forms. It can come from organizations, but most of all, it can come from average people. A huge organization that makes thousands of dollars can provide Peace through Service just as well as you or I.