

# ARCHBISHOP MAY SERVICE AWARD WINNERS – *Where Are They Now?*

CLARA HUGHES – 2013 awardee

1. Was there a key influence at Duchesne that prompted you to be so interested and involved in service? Please give specifics if possible.

I was involved in service prior to attending Duchesne, but I was able to participate in more events while in high school. The variety of service projects and the service culture of Duchesne taught me that service could be simple things that I already liked to do. I always had fun and learned something about the community and people I was serving, which made me want to continue to volunteer after high school.



2. Have you continued to be involved in service in your life after Duchesne? Please give a few examples, if possible.

Yes, I was involved in numerous service events throughout college. I volunteered through the Newman Center and the Education Department at my university to help the local town of Kirksville. Truman has an annual day of service, and I participated in that each year. Students went out around the town and helped residents complete chores and outside housework. I was able to learn about the community through these events, which made my college years more enjoyable, plus it was cool to see hundreds of my peers serving in the community. As a member of Greek Life, I was involved in raising money for my sorority's philanthropies and other Greek organizations' causes in addition to volunteering at the local schools.

3. We know you've done a lot for others; what do you feel you've gained in the time you've spent in the service of others? What have you taken away from the experience(s)?

Volunteering has provided me with experiences that I won't forget. I have met amazing people and learned more about the communities around me. Seeing the joy on the peoples' faces after dropping off gifts for Adopt-a-Family or raking the leaves in their yard makes the tough jobs worth it, and I am more appreciative of the things I take for granted each day.

Please let us know what you are doing now.

I graduated with my Masters in Elementary Education from Truman State University in May, and now I am teaching first grade in the Fort Zumwalt School District. Each day I am able to serve the kids in my class, and their smiles make the worst days better.