

JUNIOR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

St. Luke's Boise Junior Volunteer Anna Scott, like many volunteers, grew tremendously during her volunteer work at the hospital. "Volunteering not only helped me discover myself, but it also helped me discover how every action, no matter how big or small, can make or break someone's day," Anna noted.

From the surgery waiting room, mother baby unit, and front desk to the pediatric toy cart, Ronald McDonald Hospitality Cart, and the gift shop, Anna has touched the lives of countless individuals and families during her 700 hours of volunteering, many of whom were struggling and facing complicated issues. Nevertheless, she worked hard to make each person's day a little easier and pushed herself to reach out to connect with others.

A busy and driven student, Anna graduated with a 4.1 from Borah High School. She was active in many of Borah's choirs and is a member in the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, and Music National Honor Society as well as receiving several academic awards.

Although Anna has experiences across the hospital with patients, families and staff, her favorite memory involves the community outreach program YEAH! (Youth Engaged Activities for Health) which pairs mentors with children to learn about fitness, nutrition, and healthy behaviors. Despite her self-proclaimed shyness, Anna became an activity "buddy" for one little girl who didn't really fit in with the other kids. Over their weeks running, swimming, and having fun, the little girl opened up to Anna. At the end of the program the pair finished a 5k together, running, skipping, and dancing to the finish line. Said Anna, "My connection with this little girl is just an example of how volunteers impact others and how one act of kindness can help a person so much."

Junior volunteer program coordinator, Nicole Young, said "Anna has proven to be one of our most valuable volunteers. She is always willing to help regardless of the task at hand and continually goes the extra mile for our organization. When asked to describe Anna, her peers used examples including; thoughtful, thorough, and selfless. Anna is genuinely dedicated to St. Luke's and finds ways to live our mission and values every day."

As Anna begins her college career, she is driven by putting her love for service and working in a hospital together. Through her connection with St. Luke's, Anna learned about other careers in the hospital, including discovering her "dream job" — becoming a hospital-based teacher for hospitalized students. We wish Anna the best and look forward to seeing her impact the lives of more young people. Congratulations, Anna!