

S. Cole

## Service Involvement

I am involved in many service activities, including WA Serves, Service Leadership Board, Freshman Leadership at my church, Smart Lunch, Smart Kid, and FCA Mission trips. While I have been involved in WA Serves since my freshman year, as of my junior year I became a member of the Service Leadership Board. I have been specifically responsible for heading the Terra Nova project the past two years, as well as participating in the Canned Food Drive, Habitat for Humanity, and Boys and Girls Club. This leadership has allowed me to put my mark on many of the service projects. This year, we more than doubled the number of carnations sold for Terra Nova due to some of the changes my fellow leaders and I made. For the last two years, I have also been involved in the Freshman Leadership program at my church. I introduce and mentor a freshman group of girls during their transition into our high school program and meet with them once a month throughout the year. During the summer and school breaks throughout the year, I work with my neighbor who is a representative for Smart Kid, Smart Lunch. We make lunches and deliver them to children living in communities around College Park who are dependent on receiving their lunches at school in order to have this meal. This project has helped me to become more aware of the diverse community in which I live. I also regularly participate in Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) mission trips to Mexico and Kenya. During summers, I spend two weeks in Tecate, Mexico working with an orphanage and building a home for a family in need from the local church and am looking forward to my fourth summer doing so this year. I have also participated in three trips to Nakuru, Kenya working with an orphanage and school. Our projects extend beyond donations and service to fostering relationships that will outlast the pair of shoes we bring. Service has become a very important part of my life and I truly believe that I would not be who I am without the experiences I have had through these opportunities.