

Joshua Sandy

My Experience

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

Winter Nights

Being able to volunteer at St. Timothy's Winter Nights program has been a true blessing and an eye-opening experience for me as a Junior at Monte Vista High School. Through this initiative, families are given a chance to rest and recuperate from situations that are hard to fathom. I had the opportunity to interact with the children from these families during the winter nights program and make sure they were having a great time, under not so great circumstances. I also had the privilege of playing dinosaur games with them, helping them with their homework, and watching their smiles fill the room. I got

to spend time with one child, in particular, who always gave me a smile every time I walked through the door. She and I made a giant sand pit that took us over an hour to dig. It was fun for both of us and we planned to double the size of the pit the next day but the rain washed it away. The children at the shelter profoundly altered me in a way that is difficult for me to put into words; they taught me



Here is the dinosaur pit the kids and I dug. Even at 17 it was a blast to dig in the dirt and make believe we'd find fossils!

that no matter what the situation, good things are always around the corner. Looking back on my experience, I regret not volunteering sooner, but I intend to do much more in the future. Working at this program taught me a lot about life and helped me realize that everything isn't all sunshine and rainbows in towns like Danville. I was able to expand my social abilities and use them in the actual world. Not only has the St. Timothy's Winter Nights program transformed my life, but it has improved it.

Please consider how much of an impact you could have if you joined St. Timothy's Winter Nights program next year or any other community service organization you support.
