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Hello, I'm Rachel Glovinsky. I am eleven years old. Last year, I became involved with something that changed not only my life, but also the lives of hundreds of patients at the Moore's UCSD Cancer Center. I was introduced to an organization called Light One Little Candle. Now, you're probably wondering what in the world is she talking about. Well, let me tell you.

When I was seven, my dad was in an accident. I was with him at the time. Because of that, I got some money. I didn't really know how to get over my dad's accident. After some time, he was doing perfectly fine, but something made me feel scared and upset. I didn't want the money. I wanted the accident and the memories I had of that terrible day gone. So, I adopted a family for the holidays through Jewish Family Services. Making this family smile made me feel magnificent. I can't even describe it. I decided then this was how I wanted to spend the rest of my life: helping others, and, in the process, making a difference.

It was time for another project, but I was pretty busy with school. I wanted something I could tie into class. I did a search on the computer for "good deeds." A whole list of websites came up! After reading through a few of them, I found what I was looking for: Light One Little Candle. I learned that this organization helps cancer patients who are parents, or grandparents, to bond with their children during treatment by reading books together that have nothing to do with cancer.

One of the most enjoyable things I did with my parents when I was growing up was reading. So naturally, this organization's goal was appealing to me. I conducted a book drive! It was fun, and easy! I decorated five LARGE cardboard boxes and brought them to school. I told the class about what I was doing and gave them two months to bring in as many books as they could.

The book drive was great!! I collected over 250 books. I couldn't have done it without my friends, classmates, and teachers. My mom and I brought the books that were collected to the leaders of this organization, Trish and Charlotte. Before no time my books were in the racks ready to be read!!!!

This experience taught me a lot!! I take my parents for granted. Some kids my age have to worry about being able to see their parents, while I was asking for things, and complaining about things. I encourage EVERYONE to conduct a book drive! Send an email to this address, [info@lightonelittlecandle.org](mailto:info@lightonelittlecandle.org), to get started, or contact me, Rachel Glovinsky at, [rachelglovinsky@gmail.com](mailto:rachelglovinsky@gmail.com). I can't wait to hear from you!

Best regards,

Rachel Glovinsky

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