



# If a thing is worth doing...

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In his book *What's Wrong with the World*, G.K. Chesterton states, "If a thing is worth doing, it is worth doing badly." Chesterton does not intend to suggest that if saving lives is worthwhile, we should run around with no medical knowledge trying to save lives, or that if our room needs cleaning, it is okay to clean it poorly. Instead, what he implies is it is okay to do them poorly because it is more important that we engage in behaviors deemed important, even if we do them badly, rather than not do them at all.

Until freshman year, I was living in a manner captured in the motto, "If a thing is worth doing, I should avoid it and someone else can do it instead, because I am not the right person to be doing this thing." What changed my version of this quote is a group I joined my freshman year after hearing numerous testimonies from my older sister. The group, *Student 2 Student*, is dedicated to helping new students who enroll throughout the year transition to Falcon High School. When students come in, they are paired with a *Student 2 Student* member who shows them around, takes them to their classes, and eats lunch with them.

In my mind, I was the poster child for the opposite type of person I believed belonged in this group. I was not keen on moving from my comfort zone, quite introverted, and

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terrible at small talk. Regardless, I joined the group. It was an opportunity to grow weak skills and to have fun, or at least that was the way I regarded it.

After a semester in the group, I had the opportunity to become a core leader and plan and run events. Although

I never pictured myself as a leader, I knew it was an opportunity

I could not ignore. During my first day as a leader, the foremost thought running through my head was, "What have I gotten myself into?" Three years later, I know. I involved myself in a lot of good.

As a leader, I needed to do what I like to call "put my mom pants on." Putting my metaphorical mom pants on meant I stopped doing what I wanted to do, which was to sit in the corner and let someone else lead. Instead, I started thinking about what I needed to accomplish, forgetting about my fears and getting the job done. By getting my mom pants on, I viewed *Student 2 Student* from a different perspective. It was no longer something to just do but became purposeful as a platform to give back and serve others.

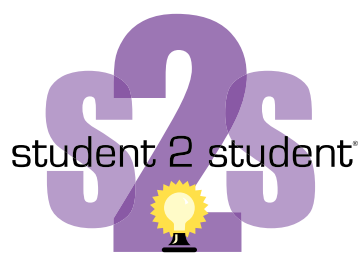
Due to the multiple military bases in

Colorado Springs, the majority of students who transfer to Falcon High School are military children. I view assisting these military children as a way to give back to the military community. New students no longer have to worry about finding their classes alone or who they will eat lunch with and instead can focus in class since they know they have someone looking out for them. They can go home and tell their parents their transition is going well, and their parents now have one less thing to worry about.

Additionally, *Student 2 Student* opened my eyes to the good that small actions bring. When I shared little details about Falcon with new students, I observed the positive impact that resulted. I shared where the best water fountain is, what stairs



*When one person  
whether it  
others become*



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are the least crowded, and that the Social Studies teachers will throw your food or drink away if it comes anywhere near their classrooms – especially if it is a blended coffee drink that comes from a famous coffee shop chain. These minor things were just as essential as guiding them to and from their classes, and it showed them I genuinely cared. Since these seemingly

little things had as much of an impact as the comparatively larger things had, why not do them more often?

The ideas I learned in *Student 2 Student* quickly became embedded into my lifestyle. I began to believe if a thing is worth doing, it is worth doing often, and I should not wait for someone else to do it because I am able to do it, so I should. I helped anyone however I could, whether it was lending a pencil, giving a ride from practice, or donating to those in need.

When one person is doing something positive, whether it seems small or large, others become inspired. They are aware of the impact these actions have, and they desire to perform positive actions too. By inspiring others, we invoke change. If I live a life dedicated to helping others, others will be inspired to do the same. It is in all of us to be good and to do good. All the little acts of kindness compile to create a big impact. If I inspire even one person, who then inspires one person, and a chain reaction continues, eventually an entire community can be inspired to be more loving, more willing to help, and implement caring actions in their lives. With this building of

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thoughtful acts, I realized that if a thing is worth doing, it is worth motivating others to do as well.

If I have the ability to create this kind of change, even if in one person's life, I can create a change in America. It may be a slight change, but it is still a change! It is still a positive action, and it is just the beginning. In order for America to become even better, it is vital that we all put our "mom pants" on and realize if a thing is worth doing, it is worth doing to the degree each of us is capable, even if it is short of perfection, as more good will build from actions taken rather than actions pushed aside.

For more information about S2S, visit: [www.MilitaryChild.org/parents-and-students/programs/student-2-student](http://www.MilitaryChild.org/parents-and-students/programs/student-2-student)

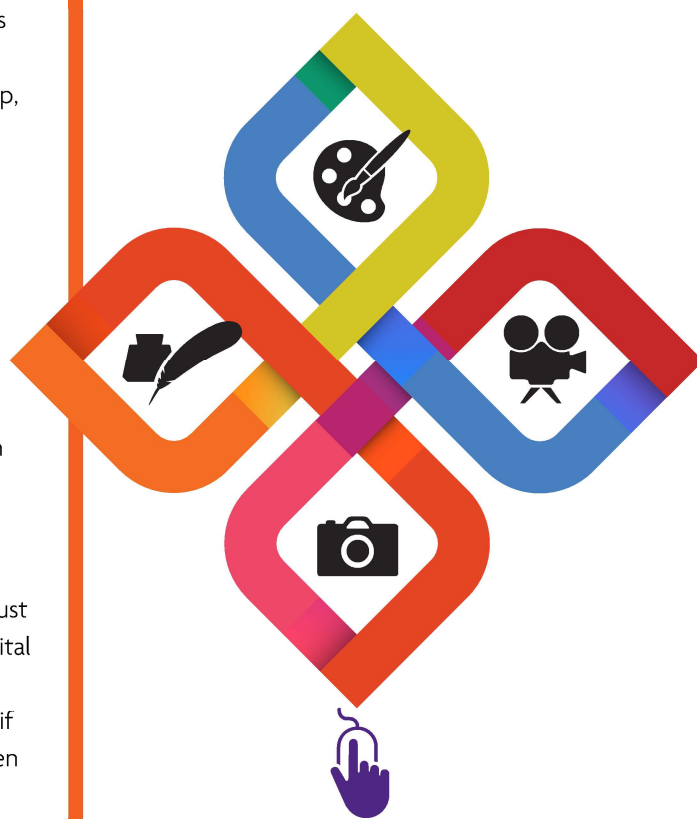
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For more information, visit:  
[www.militarychild.org/parents-and-students/programs/the-call-for-the-arts](http://www.militarychild.org/parents-and-students/programs/the-call-for-the-arts)