

Charity starts at Home!

A message from your Service & Charity Committee

Squires of Ontario,

The Squires program teaches us that we need to lead by example and show our devotion to the community. There is always a person in society who needs a helping hand, unfortunately, we cannot always be right by their side when they need it the most. Secondly, given our age group, there is a strong possibility that most of us do not have jobs and are unable to lend a hand financially as individuals. There is one place close to our hearts where tasks always need completion; that place is right in our very own homes, the most convenient place where you are almost every day of your life. There are endless opportunities for every Squire to help their parents and/or siblings do work to accomplish things around the house.

Community service is nice because it is an opportunity to give our time to someone we've probably never met before. In our homes, we devote ourselves to the people who spend an endless amount of time nurturing us and growing along with us, people we have known our entire lives. Everyday in our homes, there are many things that need to be done. There are endless chances for helping our parents, brothers and sisters, to make a difference in their lives.

The top chores that parents could use a hand with are taking out the garbage, tidying up the house (especially your room), doing the dishes, making dinner, shovelling the driveway (in Winter), raking the leaves (in Autumn), mowing the lawn, doing the laundry, babysitting younger siblings or taking care of a family pet. There are opportunities for you to bond with your siblings in the form of service. If you are older, you have the responsibility of being the guardian and role model for your younger brother or sister. This means being there for them to talk to, helping them understand their school work and protecting them from any negative influences in their life. If you are younger, you can share in your older sibling's responsibilities, help them tidy up their room, sort out the laundry and observe so you can acquire their household skills.

The purpose of this article is by no means a way to take you away from your studies or your social life. Assisting our family members with chores around the house can develop our independence and make us stronger. It will benefit us in the long run by molding us into wholesome human beings as we grow up. As Squires, we need to realize that the best life to live is a balanced one! You're not asked to burden yourself with chores, but to create a schedule of helping out your parents and siblings on a systematic basis and stick to it!

For the times when you are unable to make a difference in your community, know that your own home is a very respected place for you to develop your service skills. Everyday, you will come across something that needs to be done. To show how independent you really are, do these things without your parents asking you, or without you having to ask your parents. Your family will be very proud to see you working hard and you will feel satisfied in knowing that it will help you for the future. Once you discover the workplace and reach the age to do community service, working at home will have given you the independence and great abilities to do things for others. Service in your own home is a great place to start, and will eventually give you everything you need to reach further levels of community service and work in your life.

Esto Dignus—Be Worthy

Jeff Rousseau, Provincial Marshall Squire

Service & Charity Committee Chairman