



PHILANTHROPIST

Makala Corbin

Ten-year-old Makala Corbin is a powerhouse of philanthropic work. Though she has now organized and run more than ten fundraisers and even recently launched an official non-profit – The Makala Corbin Foundation – her story of giving started out with a fairly casual thought during the Christmas season of 2015. Her family had a tradition of giving holiday gifts to children in need, and seven-year-old Makala thought to herself, "What about all the animals in need? They need things too." From that moment, she began saving her own money and reaching out to friends for monetary donations or donations of supplies. This fundraiser for the St. Johns County Pet Center was a huge success and sparked in Makala a passion for charitable work.

Since that first fundraiser (which she has continued for the past three years), Makala has kept up a serious momentum. For three years, she has organized a Summer Fun Campaign to benefit homeless children in St. Johns County. She has made blessing bags for Hurricane Irma victims and brought food to St. Francis House on more than one occasion. Makala made duct tape bookmarks and sold them to raise money for Dreams Come True of Northeast Florida. She has filled twelve Angel Tree tags at Christmas and made monetary donations to Team Keegan, a foundation for children battling cancer. This past July, she began a new fundraiser called Fly High with School Supplies that gives school supplies to local students who might not be able to afford them.

As she begins a new chapter of her philanthropic work with an official non-profit, Makala hopes to reach and help more children and homeless in the area, as this is where her heart really lies. "My goal," she says, "is to continue to help as many homeless people as I can. I owe a huge thank you to everyone in the community that has continued supporting my fundraising efforts. This journey would not be possible without you guys."