

How Lacrosse Helped Me

Wauwatosa; a city where each and every child is given an equal amount of education, receives an immense amount of kindness from its peers, and learns how to develop into a successful adult. I joined the Wauwatosa Lacrosse Program, and that has been the smartest decision of my childhood career. It has been extremely fun and exciting, has given me the opportunity to interact with new people, and finally, it has taught me to branch out and socialize with my community.

The Wauwatosa Community has given so many opportunities of activities to different people, of different likings. For me, it was the different clubs or sport programs, for others it could be theatre classes, educational programs, etc. When I joined the Wauwatosa Lacrosse Program, I knew this was for me. Lacrosse is one of the most exhilarating sports I have ever played, I was able to have a ton of fun and get great exercise while playing the game. The Wauwatosa Lacrosse Program allows players to have a fun time with their friends, while working hard, and I have had a blast playing the sport.

When I joined the Lacrosse Program, I was in 3rd grade. I never knew many of the kids in the Wauwatosa Community, other than the people I went to school with. At first I was nervous, we met at this dirty, mucky grassland next to a school, there were also lots of older and bigger kids, so I was a little scared, but I quickly settled in. I met so many new people, and immediately as I met them, it was impossible not to be friends with them. All the other players wanted to succeed in the sport and work hard, while being kind, caring, and fun to hang around. The Wauwatosa Community is a community where everyone is as caring and as kind as my teammates. Some of the players do not go to the same school as I do, but when we are on the field, we all hang out and bond with one another.

The Lacrosse Program has taught me how to interact with people that I have never met with before. How you may ask? In 5th grade, I was given the opportunity to help this program expand, by raising money for a girls lacrosse team. I immediately jumped on the opportunity because I knew what this program has done for me, and I wanted other kids to have the same experience, so I helped. In order to raise money, I had to go around the neighborhood and sell cookies and kringles. I started selling cookies on my block, I was nervous at first, and it felt like I had butterflies in my stomach, but once I started... I loved it. I got to share why I wanted to support this program while talking to such kind and compassionate people. I ended up selling 53 items worth of cookies and kringles, and raised over \$750 for the Lacrosse Program. I learned that I should never be scared or nervous to talk to new

people, that giving is more fun than receiving, and most importantly, that everyone in the Wauwatosa Community is extraordinarily kind.

The Lacrosse Program has done so much for me in the past five years. It has taught me skills that will help me in the future, helped me meet new people, and given me some of the best memories I will never forget. I can never thank this program enough for its benefits it has given me, and I owe all of it to the Wauwatosa Community.