

Celebrate Selena Payment



Selena Payment, 16, Soldotna

Selena has a unique awareness of the world around her and always thinks of ways to support others more than herself.

In her hometown of Soldotna, she initiated a program to provide personal hygiene kits to those in transition or experiencing homelessness, volunteers at a church's food pantry and the food bank, and is the youth representative on the food bank's education and outreach committee.

Selena struggles with health issues that limit her energy to serve yet she finds ways to work within her own limitations.

Selena is raising a puppy in a 16-month service dog training program. Upon completion, she'll give him up to finish his training and change the life of another whose needs are greater than hers.

Selena is known for having a gratitude attitude for the benefits in her own life. She is thoughtful, helpful and applies herself to whatever she sets her mind to, including school. Going into her junior year of high school, Selena already has a year of college credits under her belt. She plans to have an associate's degree by the time she finishes high school and will work toward a degree in psychology and lessening the stigma around mental health.

