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Kimberly Braine-Tillem

Throughout history and my lifetime, women such as Susan B. Anthony and Michelle Obama have continued to make contributions that have shaped society as we know it today. However, a woman who has made a huge impact in my community and who my community would choose to honor in its own Wall of Honor is Kimberly Braine-Tillem. In 2010, Ms. Tillem founded the Sophie House, which is an organization for single moms and their children. She herself had faced the issues of single parenthood in 2006 when she experienced a sudden separation. She decided to form her own organization that would collect materials and food and plan activities to help single moms.

Ms. Tillem has made a difference in my life because she has inspired me to pursue my passions and try to make a positive impact on the people in my community. Although Ms. Tillem did not expect to be able to help a large quantity of women, she knew that she could make a difference in the lives of the women around her and help them overcome the obstacles she dealt with. She has given physical and emotional support to many single mothers in the local community who would have greatly struggled without her help. She inspires me to take action and try to help others in every way I can. Working with the Sophie House, I have met many of the women the organization assists, and I have seen the true impact the organization has had on their daily lives. It has helped women to care for their families and create a healthy environment for their children. Because of the inspiration from Ms. Tillem and the Sophie House, I have been able to pursue my passion of cooking to help women in my community. Ms. Tillem and the Sophie House worked with me to allow me to conduct healthy cooking classes for the women at the Sophie House and make a positive impact on them and the health of their children. Ms. Tillem has shown me that one person can truly make a difference. Although Ms. Tillem faced many hardships, she overcame them and decided to use these experiences to help others and prevent them from facing the same obstacles. Her actions will always continue to have an effect on me and my community.