

I didn't know | Now, I do ... Inspired Generosity

I didn't know that I was a philanthropist from a young age.

I didn't know that when I made my family members laugh, or gave food to my neighbors, or shared my room, clothes and toys with my sisters that I was developing my ability to be generous.

I didn't know that my inability to see pain in the world and not respond was a generous thought.

I didn't know that from the tender age of 13 when I began working and began giving to the poor and needy in my community I was cultivating generosity.

I didn't know when I decided in my older teen years that I was going to be of service to the world. That whatever I studied, whatever degrees I obtained; whatever jobs I was to pursue was going to be in the spirit and deeply rooted purpose in my heart to give and to serve mankind.

I didn't back then, what I do now. That I was, am and will always be a philanthropist.

You see, in my mind the word Philanthropy only applied to the white rich folk who could write checks larger than my annual salary.

I didn't know that the word Philanthropy meant "for the love of humankind" ...

I studied psychology; then became a therapist; studied trauma, and then became a crisis trained counselor; studied grief and became a grief informed consultant.

My ability to create a positive impact in someone's life became the fire that fueled my soul.

My ability to see systems in family, in organizations and eventually in society led me to move from counseling people to building institutions to fight systemic injustice.

Today, I know better. Today, I know that I was, is and will always be a Philanthropist. Generosity became my way of life and healing, helping and serving the world is my practice. Now, I know!