

## **Ellana Crew – Biography**

The FIRST organization has made a world of difference in my life. Since I joined the team in 2012, I've been able to do so much and have an incredible amount of fun. It's a wonderful new atmosphere that I've grown rather attached to. The experience as a whole is great. It's a perfect combination of fun and work, and I really think I've grown from it. When I first came to the team, I was quiet and afraid to talk and give my input. Now I'm friends with a good bit of the FRC team, as well as the mentors. I feel very at home at the meetings and competitions, and I feel that I've been exposed to a whole new world.

I'm legally blind, so I could never play sports, and I never seemed to fit in with any other groups, clubs, or teams. Here, however, I feel like I belong, and nobody judges, and I've made some wonderful friends over the past year and a half. Also, before robotics I didn't want to go to college at all, and just wanted to work somewhere where I wouldn't see people. Because of the confidence that robotics gave me though, I'm now looking to go to college to become a teacher at a school for blind students. It's the best thing I've ever done for myself, and it's a decision I will never regret.