



## On the Bright Side: Nursing Student's Children Use Their Creative Talents

April 30, 2020 | Sharla Chinniah

BSN student Shala Chinniah's kids make face masks and comic books.

*The COVID-19 crisis has created many challenges, but it also has inspired acts of amazing kindness among members of our UMB community. We want to hear your inspiring stories for our **On the Bright Side** series. Submit your story [here](#).*

Like so many have said before, these are very strange times we live in. It has been a time of stretching and growing as a family. Many times, I just feel helpless. I'm not a "real" nurse yet and don't feel like there is much I can do.

No matter how small it seems, we are trying to help our community. My 10-year-old daughter Analise has learned to sew masks and is excited when she sees news stories about all the handmade masks arriving at the University of Maryland Medical Center. My 8-year-old son Joshua is always the one to help those around us through laughter. He has created five episodes of his original comic book "Soap Man" so far.

I am continuously amazed at my children's creativity, caring, and empathetic hearts. Through all this, I think I am learning more about what it means to be a good person from them than they are learning from me.



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