



# UServeUtah

## College Community Engagement Council

### Final Report

#### 2022 - 2023



# UServeUtah

Utah Commission on Service & Volunteerism

The UServeUtah College Community Engagement Council (CCEC) is an advisory board composed of students enrolled in higher education institutions throughout the state of Utah. The 2022-2023 was the pilot year for UServeUtah's CCEC. The council was comprised of 10 college students. They had the opportunity to collaborate with and learn from each other, develop leadership skills, and gain an in-depth understanding of the Community Engagement Pathways.

Council members made a difference in their local communities and campuses all across Utah. They planned and executed community engagement projects involving their peers as volunteers. Not only did these activities promote volunteerism, but they also addressed global and local community issues. Council members completed a needs assessment, logic model, and final report of their projects, which will help influence UServeUtah's youth volunteerism initiatives.

UServeUtah is pleased to publish a final report containing the 2022-2023 College Council Member's individual project reflections. All council members who completed their capstone project received the Lt. Governor's Volunteer Recognition Certificate. We commend them for their service and look forward to their continued leadership and engagement in the community.

## From September 2022 through June 2023:

**107**

volunteers were engaged in  
youth-led community projects

**81**

volunteers were age 25 and younger

**247**

hours were served by UServeUtah  
Youth Council members

**693**

total volunteer hours were served

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# Oral Hygiene Kits

Ally Brotherson

University of Utah

## The Need:

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center reports that homeless persons are twelve times more likely to have dental problems than individuals with stable housing. The cheapest option for dental care is tooth extraction.

Missing teeth can prevent a homeless person from returning to mainstream society as they diminish the aesthetics of the teeth affecting the individual's self-confidence, and can also interfere with the intake of food affecting the individual's nutrition. The Salt Lake Tribune reported that in 2022, Salt Lake County's homeless population was 2,095. I was able to make about 70 oral hygiene kits which included: two toothbrushes, one toothpaste, and one floss pack for The Road Home in Salt Lake City. The Road Home is a private nonprofit social services agency that assists individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Salt Lake County. Though I am not a dentist yet, making these kits is one way that I can assist in the oral hygiene crisis that affects many of the homeless residents in Salt Lake County.

## The Project:

Oral hygiene kits

## Volunteer Roles:

Volunteers were used in packaging oral hygiene kits, putting two toothbrushes, one toothpaste, and one floss pack in a cellophane bag. Volunteers were also used in sourcing these products on the internet to put in the kits.

## Impact:

My project is intended to help 70 homeless people establish better oral hygiene and reduce their likelihood of having dental pain. It helped volunteers realize that dental care is not accessible to everyone and to have compassion towards those who are in need of care.

## The Community Engagement Pathway:

My pathway is policy & governance. Homelessness will always be in policy and as a future dentist, I hope to increase the accessibility of dental care for them through policy change. Oral hygiene kits helped me become more aware and find ways that I can help now.

2

total volunteers

2

volunteers age 25  
and younger

10

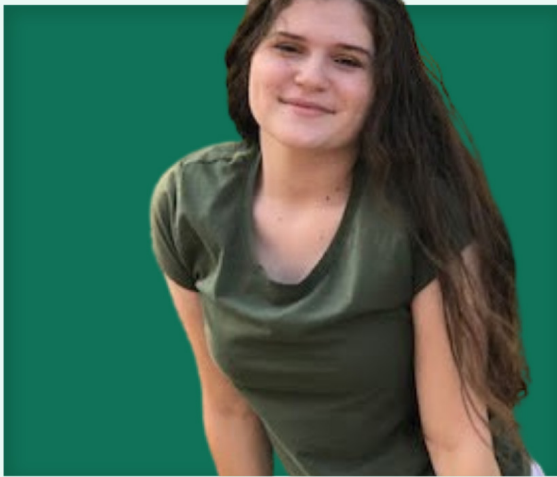
youth council  
member hours  
served

2

project volunteer  
hours







# Hygiene Kits for the Homeless Community

**Hannah Dickinson**

Weber State University

## **The Need:**

I selected this project after performing research into my community about perceived needs versus reality. In my research and surgery results, I had Ogden rescue for the homeless come up multiple times for their needs of hygiene items. I decided to help collect these items and create kits for the mission to pass out among the affected peoples.

## **The Project:**

I performed research into the community's needs and collected hygiene items for kit creation.

## **Volunteer Roles:**

I had them help collect the hygiene items and create the kits at a second event from the gathering. They also donated items themselves.

## **Impact:**

It addressed the need for hygiene items for the homeless by creating easy to pass out kits. We collected and created 60 individual kits. I saw a lot of the volunteers come to realize just how much the people need as we placed water bottles and chapstick. I think a lot of them had a moment where they realized the severity of the need. I foresee them getting more involved with volunteering in the future.

## **The Community Engagement Pathway:**

I performed research, created posters about the result, and then taught the community exactly how to apply the results to a real volunteer event.

**37**  
total volunteers

**32**  
volunteers age 25  
and younger

**10**  
youth council  
member hours  
served

**127**  
project volunteer  
hours







# Uniting Nonprofits with Service Organizations

**Bradley Embley**

Brigham Young University

## **The Need:**

The project was to unite the non-profit organization, Racing Anxiety, with the service organization, Y-Serve. This partnership would help to raise awareness for mental health struggles particularly amongst men from their teens and up.

## **The Project:**

My project was uniting a non-profit with an existing service organization.

## **Volunteer Roles:**

They were used to create a draft proposal and prepare it for submission to the Deans of Student Life at Brigham Young University, and to establish friendly relationships with the CEO of Racing Anxiety.

## **Impact:**

The program proposal is still under review by the Y-Serve Director. I was frustrated for a long time because the original program I tried to unite with Y-Serve was unresponsive to my contact attempts. I finally searched for other non-profits until I found Racing Anxiety on the JustServe website.

## **The Community Engagement Pathway:**

My project aligns with philanthropy because it is dealing with more administrative sides of service and helping to allocate resources to a service organization as well as increase volunteer service opportunities

**1**  
total volunteers

**1**  
volunteers age 25  
and younger

**20**  
youth council  
member hours  
served



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Center for Service and Learning

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New Program Proposal

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The Center for Service and Learning (Y-Serve) considers proposals for new community service programs on an ongoing basis. Programs that meet Y-Serve's criteria and do not duplicate the work of existing programs may be piloted on a trial basis for two semesters. Y-Serve programs cannot be involved in advocating for causes, raising money, or collecting donations. If you would like to suggest a new program, please write a 2- to 3-page proposal using the questions below. You may attach any additional documentation that you think would help us in the decision-making process.

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1. Please describe the service program.

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The program is a non-profit organization focused on mental health awareness. The program meets weekly in Orem as well as other locations to work on vehicles as well as talk about mental health. The types of service opportunities available include content creation for social channels, preparing discussion topics for group meeting nights, writing articles for the website and of course the most relevant service helping to work on the truck. However, the focus is really on building awareness for mental health and building social support networks.

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2. What populations will the program serve and how many people will it serve?

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The target demographic is males between the age of 16-45, The groups of The number of people meeting weekly are usually between 2-5 people. However they would benefit from having more people come as they are eager to expand their outreach.

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3. Will this program provide direct or indirect service?

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Direct

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4. What is the real need that will be met by this program?

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Are people currently asking for this service?

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Raising awareness for mental health, especially among the target demographic; men between 16-45

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5. Have you made contacts with people who would be served by the program to find out if they are interested? Who are they?

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What have some of their responses been?

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Yes, I have attended the meetings twice! The CEO(Tapley) is very eager to get more involved. He was happy to hear of the possibility of working with BYU Y-Serve.

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6. What type of liability is involved/what are the risks?

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The largest liability is when volunteers are doing automotive



# Aid for Ukraine through Public Action

**Martin Gaucin Monreal**

Salt Lake Community College

## **The Need:**

This project was intended to continue to bring awareness to the war and violence in Ukraine and what we as Utahns and Americans can do to support those in danger.

## **The Project:**

My project was a panel round table discussion featuring Representative Teuscher, Consul of the Czech Republic Jonathon Tichy, and representatives of the Utah Ukrainian Association.

## **Volunteer Roles:**

Some of our volunteers were working on virtual transmission of the event, others were some of our guest speakers.

## **Impact:**

We helped in amplifying the voices of Ukrainians to express their hopes to the people of Utah and to continue assisting the armed forces in their efforts of pushing back the aggressors.

War is a difficult circumstance, however, our volunteers pushed through and gave their very best as this was a cause working towards.

## **The Community Engagement Pathway:**

Community Organizing & Activism

5

total volunteers

2

volunteers age 25  
and younger

35

youth council  
member hours  
served

13

project volunteer  
hours





**SUPPORT &  
CULTURAL  
DRIVE FOR UKRAINE**  
ПІДТРИМАЙТЕ УКРАЇНУ - УТАН ЮТА

**14 April, 2023** 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

**City Academy: 555 E 200 S,  
Salt Lake City, UT 84102**

# A Year of War in Ukraine

A panel that will be discussing the events preceding Russia's invasion of Ukraine, where the conflict is now after one year, and the future of Ukraine, the war, and of Western resolve.



**Representative  
Jordan Teuscher**



**Consul of the Czech Republic  
Jonathon Tichy**



**Leadership from Utah  
Ukrainian  
Association**



**Host  
Martin Gaucin**

[sites.google.com/view/sdukr/home](https://sites.google.com/view/sdukr/home)





# Supporting and Increasing Awareness of Utah's Refugees

**Katie Marie Hut**

Utah State University

## The Need:

A steadily increasing refugee population arrives in Logan, Utah, with little to no personal belongings. In 2021, it was reported that 800-1,000 refugee families lived in Logan. This project aimed to support refugees and their families by gathering accessible resources for them and their families by hosting a clothing drive that partners with CRIC (Cache Refugee and Immigration Center), Family Place, and the W.A.B. Warming Center. A secondary goal of this project was to recruit college-aged students to volunteer for the drive, increasing awareness and involvement of students in the community.

## The Project:

We partnered with CRIC (Cache Refugee and Immigration Center), Family Place, and W.A.B. Warming Center to host a clothing drive that would benefit local refugee families. We received just under 1,000 donations, including many winter coats, a necessary clothing item in Logan.

## Volunteer Roles:

Volunteers helped sort, count, and collect clothing donations. We updated a Google Sheet to track types of donations. Volunteers helped deliver the donations to Somebody's Attic, the local nonprofit that took the donations for CRIC, Family Place, and W.A.B. Warming Center. Volunteers also sorted through donations to see which were not suitable to be donated.

## Impact:

We received just under 1,000 donations to contribute to Somebody's Attic, in Logan, Utah. Somebody's Attic is a nonprofit which provides free coupons to refugee families who receive services from CRIC, Family Place, and W.A.B. Warming Center. Providing these clothing resources is invaluable to Somebody's Attic, which often has a shortage of clean and usable clothing, especially Winter clothing. These resources will help refugee families have accessible access to these clean,

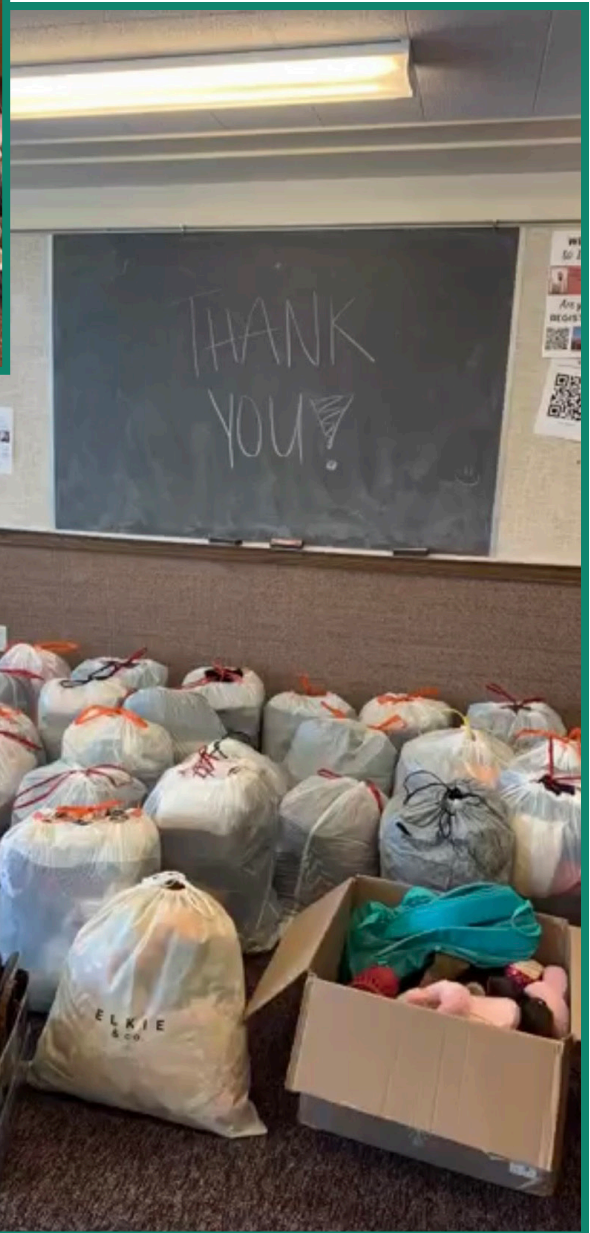
**7**  
total volunteers

**7**  
volunteers age 25  
and younger

**35**  
youth council  
member hours  
served

**28**  
project volunteer  
hours





usable, and functional clothing items, especially as many people donate new and unused items. Many donors expressed excitement about the project's goals because they wanted to help refugee communities but did not know how. There was definite enthusiasm from donors and volunteers about the project, and the number of donations was an incredible feat, as our original goal was just under 100 items.

#### **The Community Engagement Pathway:**

My pathway was philanthropy, and the goal of this project was to gather resources to directly support a cause.



# Youth Ambassadors Program and the Ouelessebougou Alliance

**Andrew Kimble**

University of Utah

**25**  
total volunteers

**17**  
volunteers age 25  
and younger

**57**  
youth council  
member hours  
served

**211**  
project volunteer  
hours

## **The Need:**

The villagers of Ouelessebougou, a region in Mali, West Africa, have struggled for decades to meet basic health, educational, and economic needs. Ouelessebougou Alliance, an established Utah nonprofit for over 35 years, is struggling post-pandemic with volunteers, staffing, and fundraising. Without the help of O.A., the population is at a much elevated risk of disease, lack of education, and many other issues. For example, Malaria is endemic in the more populated southern region of Mali with over 90% of the total population at risk. Without the Alliance's help, the population served does not receive life-saving disease prevention education, mosquito nets, and vaccinations.

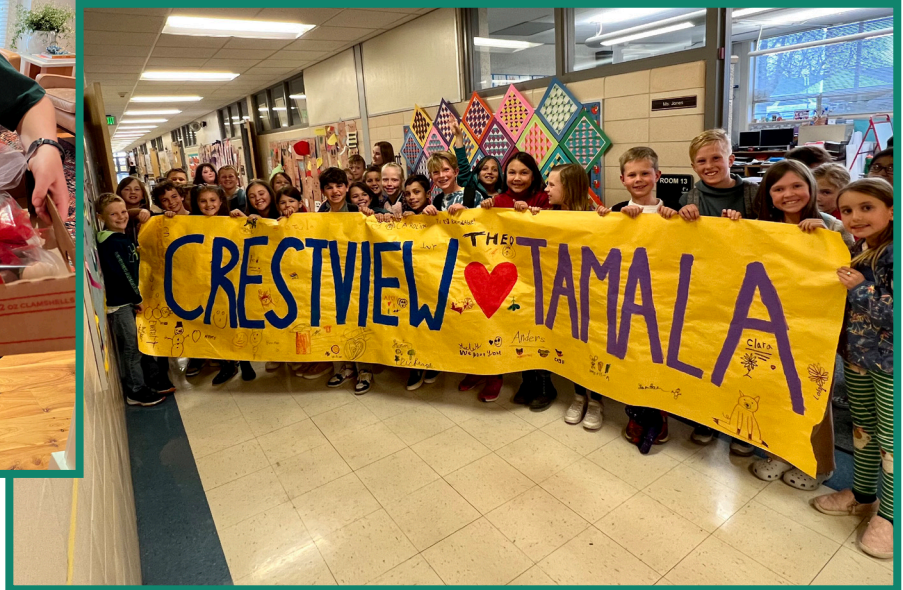
## **The Project:**

The Youth Ambassador Program is a community-driven initiative that aims to empower middle and high school students to become lifelong humanitarians by engaging them in various service projects and fundraising activities. The program focuses on raising awareness about the challenges faced by the villagers of Ouelessebougou, Mali, and supports the mission of Ouelessebougou Alliance, an established nonprofit organization. Through monthly meetings, hands-on projects, and volunteering opportunities, the Youth Ambassadors will develop valuable skills such as leadership, communication, and philanthropy, while also contributing to the betterment of the lives of people in Ouelessebougou by providing resources and education. The program seeks to create a sustainable impact on both local and international communities by nurturing compassionate and dedicated young humanitarians.

## **Volunteer Roles:**

During the project, volunteers, in their role as Youth Ambassadors, were responsible for conceiving and implementing projects that either raised awareness or generated funds for the Ouelessebougou Alliance's mission.





### **Impact:**

The Ouelesseboungou Alliance will benefit from a robust Youth Ambassador program that not only supports the organization but also cultivates lifelong humanitarians. These Ambassadors have the potential to enable hundreds of villagers to attend school for a year, ensure hundreds of children receive vaccinations against childhood diseases, and protect hundreds of families from malaria. The primary objective of the Ambassadors will be to advance OA's mission statement, either through raising awareness or securing funds.

The Youth Ambassador Program has had a profound impact on our volunteers, fostering significant changes in their attitudes, behaviors, skills, and personal conditions. Volunteers developed a deepened understanding of global issues and empathy towards the Ouelesseboungou villagers, leading to a shift in attitudes towards greater social responsibility. Behaviorally, they exhibited increased initiative and leadership, demonstrating independence, creativity, and reliability while executing their own projects. The program also affected their personal conditions, broadening their worldviews and fostering a greater appreciation for their own circumstances. In terms of skill acquisition, volunteers honed valuable competencies in fundraising, leadership, communication, and social interactions. Moreover, they became adept at fostering volunteerism among their peers, understanding the importance of philanthropy, and devising effective strategies to meet fundraising goals. This transformation has been instrumental in developing our volunteers into lifelong humanitarians.

### **The Community Engagement Pathway:**

This Youth Ambassador project truly embodies my philanthropic pathway. By rallying young volunteers for the Ouelesseboungou Alliance, we've not only helped a community but also ingrained philanthropy in our Ambassadors. They've learned the power of service and giving, aligning with the heart of philanthropy.



# Supporting and Advocating for Utah's Homeless Teens

**Makayla Larkins**

University of Utah

## **The Need:**

Teen homelessness in Utah has increased by 34% in the last couple of years with over 15,500 students identified this year. That means that 1 in 50 Utah students lack an adequate nighttime residence. Furthermore, 1 in 3 students are economically disadvantaged & qualify for free or reduced lunch. Whether these students don't have a home or are housing insecure, they need help. It is more difficult for students to find success in the classroom when they are lacking basic necessities. To support homeless and at-risk teens, school districts are implementing teen centers in their schools to provide resources. Some of these resources include facilities where students can feel safe, shower, and even do laundry. Other resources include food pantries and hygiene kits. The teen center's goal is to remove barriers to learning by creating an environment where students can comfortably study, feel safe, and have access to their basic needs. While teen centers are becoming more prevalent, there is still a need for advocacy and funding. There is a misconception that certain areas are not in need of these centers; however, statistics disprove that notion. Moreover, a student may not be homeless, but may still need access to the services offered at teen centers.

## **The Project:**

Due to the increase in Utah's homeless teen population, I wanted to support existing local teen centers as well as advocate for the approval of centers in every school. I chose to support the Davis Education Foundation by collecting donations. I created flyers that listed the various items that teen centers were in need of. With the monetary donations I received, I purchased hygiene items such as deodorant, body wash, brushes, lotion, chapstick, toothbrushes, and more. A small event was held where volunteers were able to sort, organize, and assemble these items into hygiene kits. Over \$1000 of items were used to create these kits. Additionally, I was able to purchase \$500 in gift cards to local fast food places. These gift cards are convenient for students in need

**20**  
total volunteers

**15**  
volunteers age 25  
and younger

**40**  
youth council  
member hours  
served

**25**  
project volunteer  
hours





and allow them to have access to meals on weekends and holidays. In addition, I received item donations including hundreds of toothpaste tubes and toothbrushes from a local dentist, as well as supplies from other individuals. Much needed quality sweatshirts were also donated. All these items were personally delivered to the Davis Education Foundation where they will then be distributed to local teen centers according to need. When I dropped off my donations, a teen center director from one of the high schools excitedly took some of the sweatshirts and other items on the spot to supply to her teens. Other monetary donations were sent directly to the foundation. Overall, I was able to raise over \$2,500 in cash and supplies to support homeless and at-risk teens. Another aspect of my project involved advocacy. I shared some of the Policy Project's "Teen Center Project" resources on social media to spread awareness of the issues at hand. This organization hosts Zoom meetings and events to increase involvement. I took action by emailing the appropriate legislators about funding teen centers in more school districts including Canyons school district. I graduated from Corner Canyon High School last year and saw firsthand that there were some needs there, contrary to popular belief. My friends, family, and neighbors have been involved as well in advocating, emailing, and sharing their stories to those who have the authority to create these types of resources. I've even had other people start their own service projects regarding teen centers, after hearing about the needs in the community. I plan to continue supporting and spreading awareness about teen centers. This cause is very near and dear to my heart because I've witnessed the reality of these needs. It's hard enough to be a teenager without having your basic needs met. I hope that in some small way, we can meet these needs and positively impact students' futures.

#### **Volunteer Roles:**

Volunteers helped by raising money, picking up donations, transporting items, shopping for hygiene items, and assembling hygiene kits. Volunteers were also encouraged to take action by emailing legislators and school districts about the needs at hand.

#### **Impact:**

Teen centers get kids into school and keep them in school by removing barriers that get in the way of learning. Whether it be a lack of food, clean clothing, hygiene items, or feeling safe, they offer support and hope. Aside from meeting basic needs, teen centers provide a trusted adult to talk to when needed. Centers allow teens to get what they need without being embarrassed. The goal is to help students now so that they can fulfill their potential later and have a bright future. Volunteers gained greater awareness and empathy for the needs of students in their community. There seems to be a lack of awareness that these problems exist in our local communities.

#### **The Community Engagement Pathway:**

My Community Engagement Pathway is Philanthropy. By receiving donations I was able to help fund the teen center's needs.



# Vision Boards - Visualizing YOU

**Brooklyn Ward**

Utah State University Eastern

## **The Need:**

I selected this project because I wanted to engage in my college campus as well as the community. I wanted to help build feelings of worth and self-confidence. I think being creative is one of the best ways to find pride and a sense of accomplishment, and creating collages and vision boards is one easy way that I love to express myself. Being able to show what makes you, you and give yourself a physical representation of where you want to be in life truly makes life meaningful. My project is centered around growing one's self love while also allowing others and creating a sense of belonging where relationships can be made and strengthened. The community in Price desperately needs more love, as our suicide rates are some of the highest in the state and I hope through my project I was able to help others recognize that they are unique, special, and loved.

## **The Project:**

Vision Boards - Visualizing YOU

## **Volunteer Roles:**

Volunteers were used for support and organization, execution of events, coordination with community groups, and presentations.

## **Impact:**

Carbon County has fairly high suicide rates and I wanted to help increase feelings of worth and self confidence both on campus and in the community through different community groups. I also wanted to build and strengthen personal connections through social events.

My volunteers had a great experience and loved the opportunity to meet and connect with people in creating their vision boards.

## **The Community Engagement Pathway:**

Direct Service. Human Connection - One on one interaction.

**10**  
total volunteers

**5**  
volunteers age 25  
and younger

**40**  
youth council  
member hours  
served

**40**  
project volunteer  
hours

## Vision Boards: USU Eastern Campus

October 10, 2022

I planned and hosted a Vision Board Night on campus for students at USU Eastern, including gathering all the supplies needed, scheduling, led the advertising on campus pre-event, set-up, and created the agenda for the activity.

To start the activity, I presented my platform "Be Your Best You" and shared how getting to know yourself, gifts, and talents can help you love yourself. We discussed how creating art that's inspired by personal interests and self-expression helps us know what we value, love, and ultimately determine what we want to focus on in life. Setting goals also helps a person to feel accomplishment and gives us a sense of direction. I was able to meet new people and share my platform even deeper to students on campus.

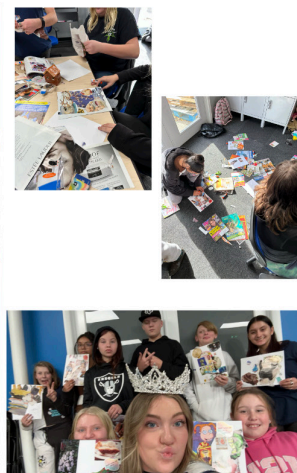


## Vision Boards: The Boys & Girls Club

November 21, 2023

I planned a visit and activity to the Boys and Girls Club of Price. I presented to them about my platform "Be Your Best You" and how important they are and the need to love who they are the the gifts they have. We had fun talking about how creating their own vision board and a piece of art about them, can help them feel accomplished and see their individuality.

I was able to have a fantastic time with these kids and make some truly meaningful connections with each of them. I'm so glad I got to spend the afternoon with them and help them create meaningful artwork and share my stickers to remind them to be their best self and share it with others.



## Vision Boards: USARA

To Be Scheduled - 2023

In an effort to collaborate with the Substance-Use Recovery center in Price I hosted a vision board event.

I was able to connect with new people and hear their stories. These people are inspiring and are setting goals to turn their life around.

Creating vision boards was a great way to help them to have a positive outlook on their future and take control of their lives.







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