



2013

# Annual Report

The Center for Service and Learning







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## Connections

“We do not live alone—in our city, our nation, or our world. There is no dividing line between our prosperity and our neighbor’s wretchedness. “Love thy neighbor” is more than a divine truth. It is a pattern for perfection. This truth inspires the familiar charge, “Go forth to serve.” Try as some of us may, we cannot escape the influence our lives have upon the lives of others.”

President Thomas S. Monson

4 Administration Messages

7 New Programs

8 Recognition and Awards

9 Student Service Hours

10 Service Council Message





**Casey Peterson**  
Director



## Angel Connections

In October of 2008, Jeffrey R. Holland stated the following: “When we speak of those who are instruments in the hand of God, we are reminded that not all angels are from the other side of the veil. Some of them we walk with and talk with—here, now, everyday. Some of them reside in our own neighborhoods. Indeed, heaven never seems closer than when we see the love of God manifested in the kindness and devotion of people good and so pure that angelic is the only word that comes to mind.”

While referring to BYU student volunteers as “angelic” may be a bit of an overstatement, their efforts to serve as instruments in the hands of God continues to be the focus of the BYU Center for Service and Learning (Y-Serve). The kindness and devotion that is demonstrated each year by over 23,000 students serving through Y-Serve programs makes a difference in the individual lives of volunteers, those served, and the community as a whole.

Once again, this year Provo, Utah has been named the top volunteering city in America, in large part due to the efforts of BYU Y-Serve students. Students become connected with Y-Serve programs for a variety of reasons. Some do it for class requirements, others for scholarships, some for future résumé or application purposes, or for social, academic, or spiritual reasons. Many comment that regardless of reasons for serving, it is one of the highlights of their BYU experience. Students have identified significant growth through their participation, leading to lifelong learning and service in their lives, one of the AIMS of a BYU education.

Community connections are established and maintained through the direct efforts of nearly 300 Y-Serve student leaders who serve as volunteer program directors, service council, or marketing council members. This year the 70th Y-Serve program was added, expanding even further the rich diversity of program and service

options available to students. Direct leadership experiences in recruiting and training volunteers, leading and teaching through reflection experiences, and working side by side with tremendous community service providers provide direct opportunities for leadership growth and development as well as personal gratification and fulfillment. Y-Serve leaders are able to leave BYU equipped with creativity, passion, and skills to continue to lead service efforts throughout the world.

Connecting motivations, methods, efforts, individuals and lives in the Y-Serve Center continues to grow through efforts of individual BYU students experiencing the magnitude of being an instrument in the hands of the Lord. While they see themselves as ordinary students struggling to balance demands of time, finances, academics, and social pressures, to those watching their efforts and being served by them, a glimpse of Elder Holland’s definition of angels becomes more poignant and clear ■





**Theodore Okawa**  
Community Service Coordinator

## Tutoring Connections

A wonderful collaboration between the Center's tutoring program and Campus Life Web Consulting is resulting in a new system in Learning Suite that will assist students in finding a tutor. This system will allow a student to find a tutor by simply clicking a button next to a class in which they're enrolled.

As the Program Directors and Tutoring Council have met to assess the tutoring services as they are currently, they have felt that many students do not know how to find a tutor. Having the process made easier by simply clicking a block in Learning Suite will make tutors more available to tutees and provide many more service opportunities to volunteer tutors.

By working together with Campus Life Web Consulting, we expect to have a system built specifically for BYU's unique Tutoring Services that will be a great step forward in this program's continued progression. We believe it will dramatically improve both the tutors' service experience and the ease which students can access the tutoring help they need. This is indeed a marvelous connection which will deliver wonderful results for all ■







**Becky Smoot**

Community Service Coordinator

## New Connections

In my office is a quote from a speech given September 17, 1996, by President Gordon B. Hinckley titled “Stand Up for Truth.” President Hinckley states: “You are good. But it is not enough to just be good. You must be good for something. You must contribute good to the world.” This quote reminds us that we need to make this world a better place. At the

Center for Service and Learning, Y-Serve, our BYU student volunteers are doing good by serving those in our community. Y-Serve helps connect BYU students to the community, giving them meaningful service opportunities to help lift others and to “contribute good to the world.”

Y-Serve student leaders connect with and serve over 100 community service providers in schools, care centers, hospitals and hospice organizations, animal shelters, parks and forest services, and more. In 2013, Y-Serve added 7 new programs, bringing the total to 70 programs, 238 student leaders, and 23,688 volunteers.

One of the new Y-Serve programs is Underwater Robotics. This program helps children learn science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)

concepts by making underwater robots. Volunteers help teach public school children how to build and operate robots that can navigate under water. Children learn about electric circuits, tool safety, propulsion, buoyancy, and various other STEM-related topics. At the end of the year a competition is held to test the robots in underwater obstacle courses.

This program, along with all the other Y-Serve programs, gives BYU students opportunities to connect in meaningful ways within the community. It is exciting to see our students make a difference as they serve others. I look forward to continuing to work with these wonderful students and to see what new ideas and opportunities open up for them to serve and contribute good in the world ■







## New Programs

### **Centro Hispano**

Centro Hispano volunteers get involved with the Latin community by teaching classes on a variety of subjects and by assisting with Center events.

### **Global Service**

Global Service assists the LDS Church's Global Service Center by translating emails in less common foreign languages.

### **Jimmerosity**

To further the mission of the Fredette Family Foundation, Jimmerosity works with junior high school student body councils

and athletic team captains to promote anti-bullying principles in their schools.

### **Heritage School**

Heritage School is a residential school for youth, ages 13-18, with psychiatric, emotional, or behavioral difficulties. Volunteers serve as mentors, classroom aides, and humanitarian service leaders.

### **Senior Academy**

Senior Academy provides learning opportunities for senior citizens. Volunteers prepare and teach a lesson or activity to seniors in assisted living centers.

### **Clear Horizons**

Clear Horizons Academy provides a tailored educational program for elementary-aged children with autism spectrum disorder. Volunteers build relationships with the children while assisting teachers in the classroom.

### **Underwater Robotics**

Underwater Robotics volunteers teach concepts in science and engineering as they help junior high students construct remotely operated vehicles.





**Janine Green**  
Operations Supervisor

## Other-Centered

Even though we live in a day and age of remarkable connections made possible through social media, often those connections tend to focus on self. But in the Center for Service and Learning, every connection and every interaction focuses on others through the medium of service.

How well I remember my first day of work in the Center for Service and Learning. Though the Center isn't very large, that day in each corner—every nook and cranny—were students connecting with other students through meaningful stewardship interactions, reflections, volunteer trainings, planning meetings, orientation events, and tutoring sessions. The energy in the room was electrifying, joyous, captivating, and humbling. The connections that were being made were the finest to be found anywhere on the earth because they were centered on others, not self.

These “other-centered” connections are the reason my job has such meaning, and why I am grateful to be part of the Center for Service and Learning ■



## Recognition and Awards

### The Lieutenant Governor's Volunteer Recognition Certificate

This award is offered to all BYU students who demonstrate exemplary volunteer service to their community. All submissions must be accompanied by a narrative statement and should be no longer than 250 words.



### BYU Service Certification

This award is offered to all BYU students who take the Learning Through Service class. They must perform 100 hours of community service and devise a capstone project that benefits a community service program or agency.



### President's Volunteer Service Award

This award is available to all BYU students and offers bronze, silver, gold, and lifetime awards. Students, ages 25 or younger, (US citizens only) can receive the gold award by performing 250 hours of service in one year.



### The Service Leadership Record

The Service Leadership Record is an official document created by the Center for Service and Learning and endorsed by the Dean of Students. This record contains a summary of service hours, awards, and certificates and is offered to all BYU students who volunteer through the Center. Only hours submitted during the semester of service can be verified.



## Student Service Hours

Programs	Volunteers	Hours	Programs	Volunteers	Hours
4-H Mentoring	328	5,955	Paint a Wish	40	634
ACCESS	145	2,934	Partners in the Arts	68	513
Adaptive Aquatics	775	3,564	PAWS	3	75
Adopt a Grandparent	731	5,008	Project Uplift	781	782
Athletic Connection	189	617	Project Youth	186	1,209
Best Buddies	410	1,702	Provo Activities	340	1,568
Blood Drives	2,041	3,316	Provo Youth Mentoring	460	3,867
Boys and Girls Club	284	594	RAH	120	784
Brighter Horizons	67	1,548	Red Cross Services	212	919
BYU Experience	321	972	Response	221	631
Camp Kesem	80	5,511	Rural Housing Development	395	1,707
CASA	400	4,010	Scenic View	70	1,942
Centro Hispano	90	612	Scouting	28	2,516
Circle K	273	888	Seeds of Success	198	790
Clear Horizons	63	345	Senior Academy	20	184
Community Action	36	1,100	Service Dates	466	1,390
Community Clean-Up	178	1,094	Service to the World	526	1,919
Community Outreach	660	3,366	Spanish Interpreters	535	1,980
Conexiones	343	3,397	South Franklin Community Center	130	568
Cougar Coaches	239	2,062	Special Olympics Team	324	2,037
Dietetics After-School Program	22	651	Sports Hero Day	350	1,598
Family Literacy	49	1,493	Stop and Serve	824	2,413
Freshman Service Corps	280	3,215	Sub for Santa	95	824
Friday's Kids Respite	1,164	1,708	Teaching and Loving Children	116	577
Global Service	45	156	TOPS	2,094	10,123
Habitat for Humanity	384	1,567	Tutoring	2,184	4,174
Head Start	65	648	Underwater Robotics	20	220
Healing	187	779	Utah Healing Arts	208	1,059
Healthcare	554	6,579	Vineyard	185	895
Heart 2 Home	65	82	Youth Detention Center	886	372
Heritage School	10	187	Y-Days	41	2,390
Hope	138	922			
Horses for Healing	104	1,175	<b>Additional Volunteers</b>	<b>Volunteers</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Hospice	362	2,304	Service Council	26	6,301
Impact	90	798	Community Outreach Consultants	4	266
Independence High School	90	1,273	Jamie	1	647
Jimmerosity	10	82			
Kids on the Move	112	868			
Locks of Love	151	499			
			<b>Total</b>	<b>23,688</b>	<b>131,454</b>





**Leah Lehmueller**  
Service Council President



## Service is Love

As I reflect on this past year of service, images of individual faces drift through my mind. I see service council members, program directors, staff members, Special Olympics athletes, volunteers, community service providers; the list goes on and on. These individuals all have one thing in common—the spirit of service has positively influenced each one of their lives. Whether through rendering service with a loving heart, or receiving service with a grateful heart, each one of the faces I see has been influenced by service this year.

It is such an incredible opportunity to develop relationships through service. Elder Marvin J. Ashton once said, “Day-to-day acts of service . . . may not seem important, but they are building cords of love that become so

strong they can seldom be broken.” Service is one of the most effective ways to build relationships and to learn to love those around you.

I have developed some of the greatest relationships of my life through service. When we choose to serve out of love, our true character shines through, and those with whom we serve cannot help but feel of the sweet spirit that accompanies our sacrifice. Marvin J. Ashton also said, “What we serve, we learn to love, and what we love takes our time, and what takes our time is what we love.”

As I see those faces in my mind, I am grateful for the sacrifices made which have enabled those connections and relationships to grow and thrive. Y-Serve is run by individuals who have faith that their willingness to serve is the

will of the Lord, and that he will guide them to those who need them the most. This past year, as a council, we have been able to witness how great sacrifices made by program directors have deeply impacted the lives of those whom they serve and those with whom they serve.

Elder Paul Dunn once said, “Concern yourself first with individuals, with relationships, with loved ones. What else really matters? Don’t imagine yourself, regardless of who you are, busier than the Lord, who puts souls first above everything else.” As we look forward to the future of Y-Serve, it is my hope that the student leaders and volunteers continue to make an impact by sacrificing their time, energy, and talents in the service of their fellow beings ■





Service Council. Back: Casey Peterson, Becca Urry, Jessica Godfrey, Amanda LeStarge, Devynne Biggs, Tiffani Bodhaine, Ellie Stanger, Leah Lehmuller, and Erin Smith. Front: Will West, Andrew Grisson, Troy Murphey, Jason Hunt, Hal Nielsen, Jake Gamboa, Peter Moody. Not depicted: Rachelle Winkel and Aaron Moeller.





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