



*Empower the One
Extend a Hand
Bring all to Christ*

ANNUAL REPORT

Center for Service and Learning

2018





Our mission is to provide every student with a **meaningful service opportunity.**

We seek to instill in the heart and mind a **desire to give lifelong service.**

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Chris Crippen

Director, Center for Service and Learning

Each April, I have the privilege of taking the Service Council on an Incoming Retreat for a few days in which time 15 strangers come together to form a united family of council members for the coming year. We typically hike and eat and laugh together, getting to know one another quite well. The highlight for me is to watch them work together to form a united vision for the year. Last April, this amazing Council created the following vision:

“ We will empower the one, extend a hand and bring all to Christ. ”

For me, this was probably the most complete synopsis yet of what I hope Y-Serve brings to its stakeholders: the leaders, donors, community partners and volunteers. Our central efforts are aimed at strengthening individuals' resolve to find the good within themselves and share it with others to the end that they are inspired and, consequently, draw closer to God. This principle is reflective of the wisdom imparted in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. In the book of Matthew 5:16 states:

“ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven. ”

As our volunteers have gone forth to serve in multiple ways, they have inevitably drawn closer to their Savior personally and led others to Him collectively.

While we strive to collect data to accurately represent the service being done, we have tried to do so in the most convenient ways possible for our volunteers. Over the past two years, we have gradually been relying more upon the submission of service hours using the Y-Serve feature on the BYU app. This change has resulted in an initial dip in the reported volunteer hours which we expect to be a benchmark from which to grow. We are actively seeking to find ways to portray the most accurate numbers possible. Meanwhile, there have been plenty of meaningful experiences had by our volunteers.

Service has a way of naturally drawing people together, building lasting and natural human connections that promote the best in each other. As our student leaders have worked to provide training and leadership which empowers the one, they have seen growth in program efficiency and effectiveness and, most importantly, in deep personal meaning for all involved.

I have had dozens of conversations with students who have said that they discovered and built tremendous, new capacity within themselves through venturing into service opportunities they had never before attempted or even considered. These experiences often open new doors of opportunity.

As students extend a hand to lift the burden of another, this is quite often done in a manner to physically help someone, but it can have another connotation and effect. An extended hand will likely also serve as a gesture of kindness and acceptance, in a world where such is needed more and more. Students frequently find, through their service outreach, new and valuable friendships which enrich the lives of all parties involved.

While engaging in service opportunities, we naturally feel closer to the Lord and His mission of helping each of us to return to our Father in Heaven. The spirit of service typically promotes a closeness to the Spirit of God, opening the portals of revelation and inspiration that allow us to reach out at the right time and in the right way.



Rebecca Smoot

Community Service Coordinator

“Succor the weak, lift up the hands which hang down, and strengthen the feeble knees.”

– Doctrine and Covenants 81:5

In an April 2010 General Conference talk titled “You Are My Hands,” President Dieter F. Uchtdorf invites all of us to emulate Christ’s perfect example of reaching out to comfort, heal, bless and love one another, and says that by so doing “our hands can become His hands; our eyes, His eyes; our heart, His heart.”

At the Center for Service and Learning (Y-Serve), we get to interact daily with BYU students who take this invitation to heart and reach out to serve their fellowmen with their time and talents. I am in awe of the way these students extend themselves to serve others with compassion and charity while balancing full class schedules, work, and other obligations. One of the best parts of working at Y-Serve is meeting with BYU students who see a need to uplift and help others in the community. It is inspiring to meet with students who submit new program proposals and to listen to the passion they have for helping fill a particular need.

Three programs that were proposed and added in 2018 are called Central Park Station, Creative Connections, and Kids Who Code.

Central Park Station is a program where BYU students volunteer their time and talents to provide enriching activities for children of low-income families in Provo. McKinsey Koch, a Central Park Station volunteer reflecting on her service wrote,

“ I wouldn’t consider myself someone who is great with kids. . . but after just a few hours at Central Park Station, I have come to adore the children we help out and have become best friends with them! Playing games with the kids has become a highlight of my week and is a great stress relieving activity! I love those kids.

McKinsey, CENTRAL PARK STATION PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Creative Connections is an expressive art program for teens attending Day Skills Intervention (DSI), a program within the juvenile justice system. The objective of this program is to foster meaningful, lasting connections through art that will propel DSI students in a positive, pro-social direction.

“ I love Creative Connections! I am changed as I choose to connect with and love teenagers who often have it much harder than me. They are my heroes. I love attending the program each Monday and feel

I can really make a difference there. I also love the volunteers who go and feel that we foster connections that allow all participants to see and be their best selves. I would recommend that every BYU student volunteer with Creative Connections.

Abby, CREATIVE CONNECTIONS VOLUNTEER

Kids Who Code is a program where BYU students teach children the basics of coding. Volunteers serve at Provo School District elementary schools and focus on instructing minority groups in Grades 3-6. McKell Woodland, the BYU student who proposed the program, reflected,

“ I absolutely loved putting together the club Kids Who Code. It was incredible to see how many students got excited about it and decided to volunteer. But by far, my favorite part was to interact with the kids. I loved seeing their confidence in coding grow and all of their wonderful ideas for doing good in the world through technology. But most of all, I loved seeing their love and excitement about coding grow. It’s just an amazing feeling to pass on a talent that you love and has incredibly blessed you to the upcoming generation.

McKell, KIDS WHO CODE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

These new programs, along with all of our other Y-Serve programs, empower BYU students to explore a wide variety of meaningful service opportunities. Volunteers can choose the service that best fits their individual interests, talents, and time commitments.

As each volunteer emulates the Savior’s example of extending a hand to lift and help others with compassion and Christlike love, they not only bless the lives of those they serve, but also become better people as a result. We look forward to seeing what the future holds for each of these BYU students as they graduate and become contributing citizens, leading and serving wherever they go.



Theodore Okawa

Community Service Coordinator

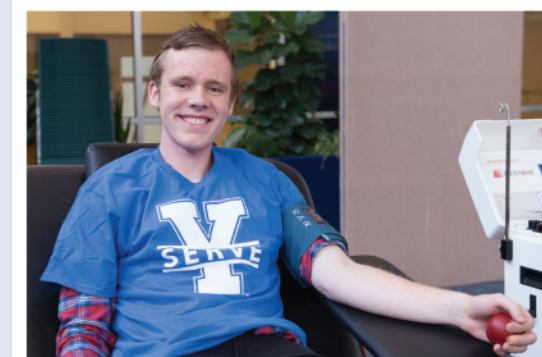
President Spencer W. Kimball taught, “God does notice us, and He watches over us, but it is usually through another person that He meets our needs. Therefore, it is vital that we serve each other” (Teachings of the Presidents of the Church: Spencer W. Kimball [2006], 82).

Y-Serve’s Blood Drives program is striving to serve and meet community needs. Because only about 39% of our population is eligible to donate blood, supplies have been suffering. For example, according to a message from the Red Cross dated May 8, 2019:

“ Right now, the Red Cross has less than a three-day supply of most blood types, and a critical shortage of type O! Blood products are being distributed to hospitals faster than donations are coming in. Please encourage donors to give now to help, specifically type O, to help ensure lifesaving patient care isn’t impacted this spring!”

University students, especially BYU students, have historically been a huge source of life-saving blood. According to data provided by the Red Cross, during the 2014-2018 period, BYU had 287 Drives and collected 6,573 units, (5,184 of which were “Campus” or hosted by Y-Serve. Other groups included ROTC, and various Clubs, etc.)

The Blood Drives Program not only helps the community as a source of life saving blood, but also empowers our students with an opportunity to extend a hand and become like Christ by giving their blood to save others.



STUDENT SERVICE STATISTICS

Most Volunteers

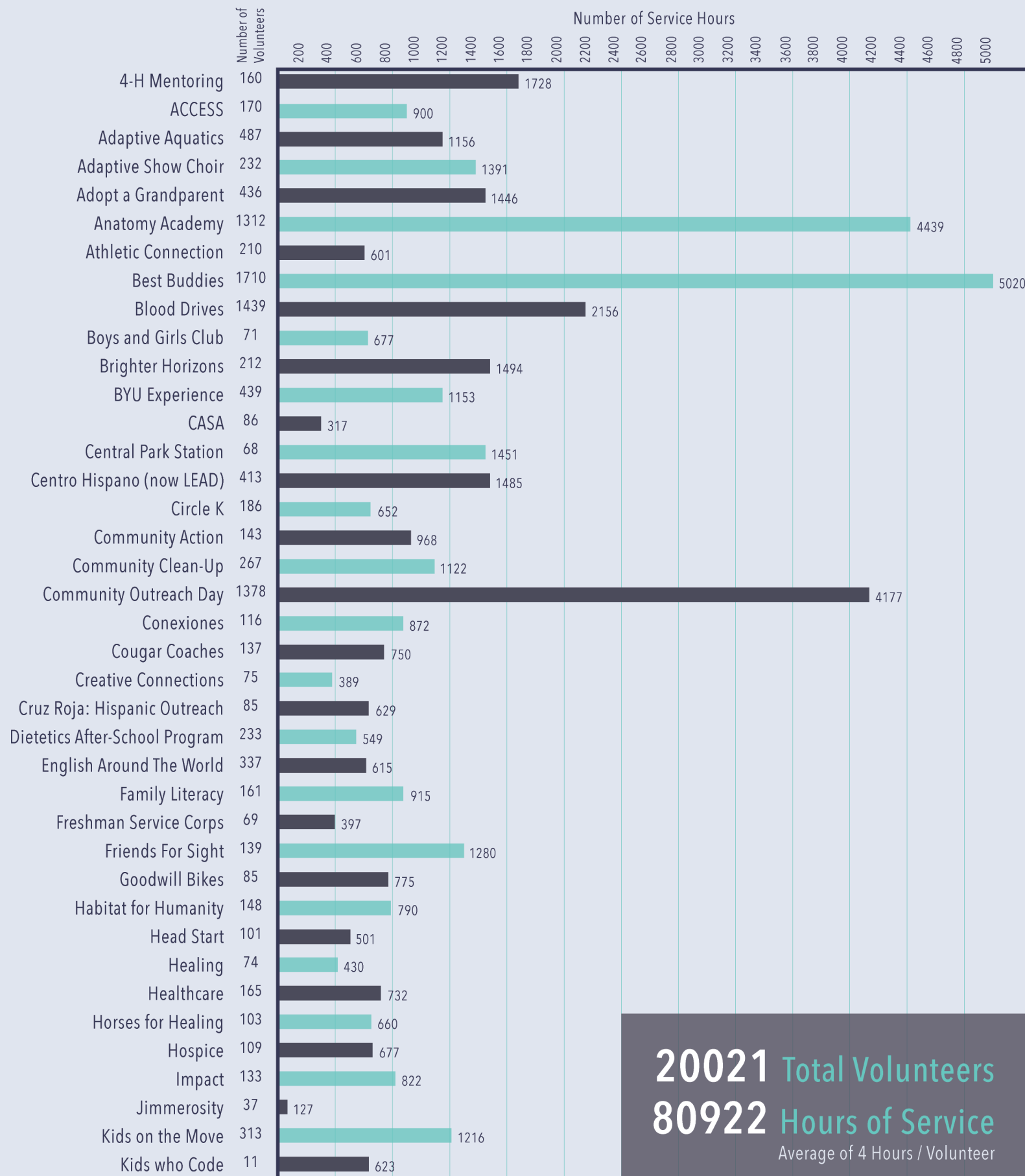
1710 Best Buddies

1523 Refugee

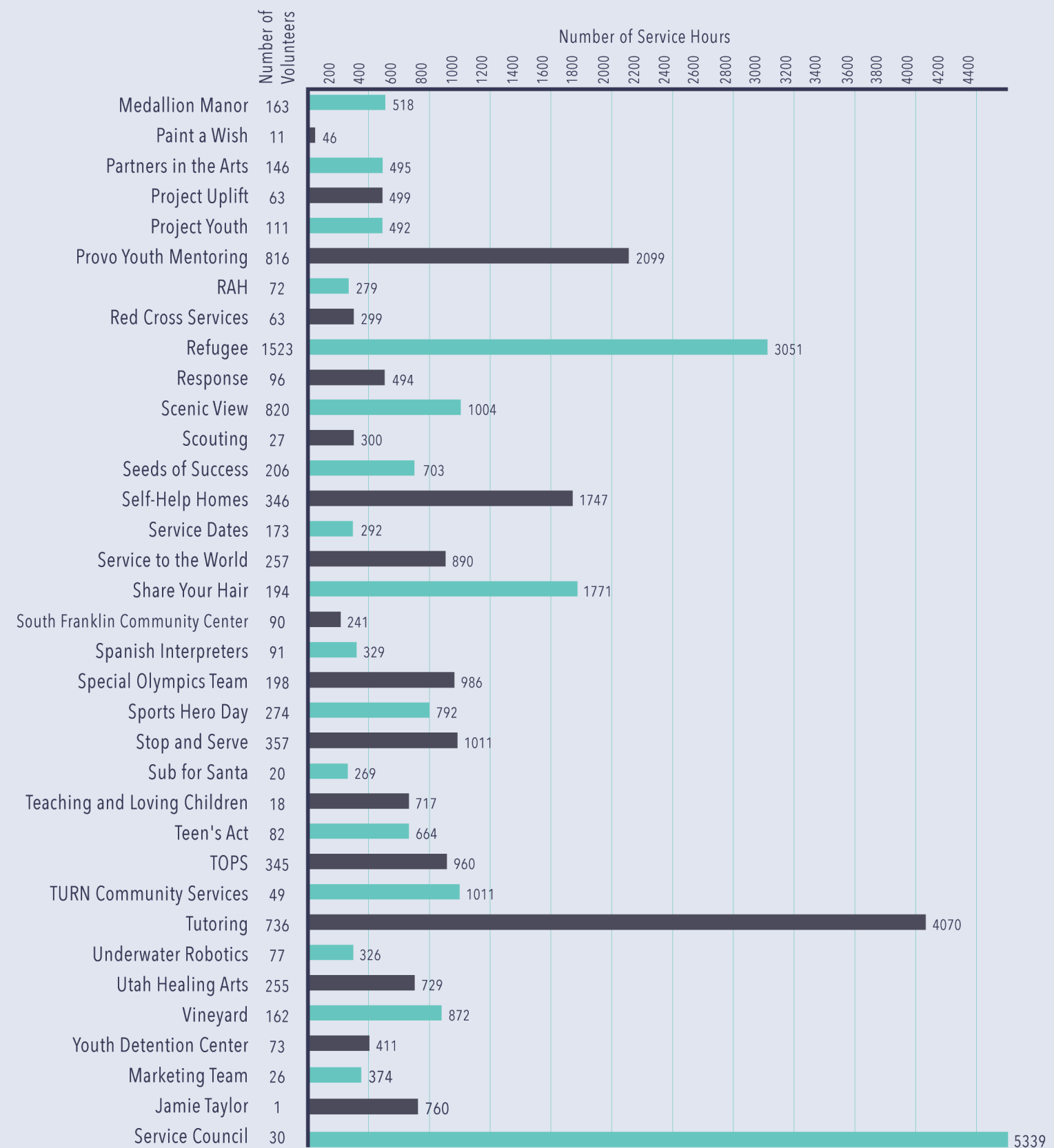
1439 Blood Drives

1378 Community Outreach Day

1312 Anatomy Academy



20021 Total Volunteers
80922 Hours of Service
 Average of 4 Hours / Volunteer



Y-Serve Programs

Art and Music

Adaptive Show Choir pairs BYU students with individuals with disabilities to learn music and choreography for a performance.

Creative Connections mentors struggling teens through classes that inspire a love of art, creativity, and learning.

Paint a Wish teaches basic art techniques to children with major health problems.

Partners in the Arts teaches music lessons to local middle school students who cannot afford them.

Utah Healing Arts touches lives of elderly individuals through art, music, dance, and theater.

Community Health

Blood Drives assists donors before and after they give blood.

Cruz Roja teaches emergency preparedness in Spanish.

Friends for Sight assists with vision screenings for those with limited resources.

Healthcare volunteers in a variety of positions with local health programs.

Hospice visits homebound and terminally ill patients.

Red Cross Services teaches hands-on CPR and emergency preparedness for a Disaster Action Team, and performs general community service.

Share Your Hair organizes two events a year in which community members can donate their hair to children who suffer from medical-related hair loss.

Wasatch Mental Health helps people of all ages who are struggling with mental illness.

Education and Mentoring

4-H Mentoring provides weekly activities for 10-14 year-old at-risk children.

ACCESS mentors 5-12 year-old at-risk children in a partnership similar to a big brother/sister.

Anatomy Academy helps combat child obesity by teaching elementary students about anatomy and nutrition.

Boys and Girls Club plays games with, tutors, and provides role models for children in the community.

Brighter Horizons participates in meaningful service projects with youth in local treatment facilities.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) pairs volunteers with children so they can offer trust during complex legal proceedings.

Central Park Station spends time with children from local low-income families and provides them with enrichment activities.

Circle K provides PE kinds of activities for children in the state hospital.

Circles Utah Valley spends time weekly with children whose parents are attending self-reliance classes.

Dietetics After-School Program teaches after-school nutrition classes in Provo schools.

Family Literacy helps members of the community increase their reading skills.

Foster Love serves children ages 8-10 who are in foster care by offering after-school enrichment activities.

Head Start promotes school-readiness among low-income children.

IMPACT mentors students ages 13-18 in a partnership similar to a big brother or sister.

Jimmerosity works with the Fredette Family Foundation to stop bullying in Utah County.

Kids Who Code assists local K-6 students in after-school computer coding classes.

Project Youth mentors 5th and 6th grade students from Title 1 schools during a day-at-BYU event.

Provo Youth Mentoring creates positive relationships between mentors and students as they work on the child's homework and do uplifting activities.

Scouting leads Boy and Girl Scout groups with members from disadvantaged, disabled, or minority groups.

Seeds of Success meets on campus to tutor K-12 students from local school districts.

South Franklin Community Center helps 2nd - 8th grade children with homework and extra-curricular activities.

Sports Hero Day leads groups of 6th grade students during an event twice a year with BYU athletes.

Teens Act mentors and assists at-risk students in two local high schools.

Tutor Outreach to Provo Schools (TOPS) connects classroom aides to K-12 classrooms.

Tutoring Services connects BYU students in need of academic help with other BYU students who have excelled in those classes.

Underwater Robotics helps middle-school students build underwater robots using science and engineering concepts.

Youth Detention Center participates in reading and sports activities with youth in detention facilities.

Hands-On Service

Community Action Food Bank assembles food packages to assist low-income families.

Community Clean-up takes care of public places with other volunteers on Saturdays.

Community Outreach Day organizes service projects for community members to do on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Freshman Service Corps participates in a monthly service activity with various Y-Serve programs that need extra help.

Goodwill Bikes refurbishes unwanted/unclaimed bicycles for low-income families, refugees, and individuals who are homeless or unemployed.

Habitat for Humanity helps build homes for low-income families.

Refugee serves refugees in our community and participates in projects that benefit worldwide refugees.

Response provides personalized service for community members with specific needs.

Self-Help Homes helps build homes for families in the community.

Service Dates participates in group service projects.

Service to the World works on service projects that benefit global non-governmental organizations.

Stop and Serve provides small service projects for students to do in the Y-Serve office during office hours.

Special Needs

Adaptive Aquatics helps children with special needs develop autonomy through swimming and gym activities.

Athletic Connection assists BYU athletes in teaching physical skills to children and adults with Down Syndrome.

Best Buddies builds meaningful friendships with adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Horses for Healing assists in horse therapy for individuals with disabilities.

Kids on the Move interacts with children with and without special needs in a playful environment.

Medallion Manor visits with and provides fun activities for adults with disabilities.

RAH assists adults with disabilities in social activities, including bowling.

Scenic View participates in weekly FHE activities with adults with developmental disabilities.

Special Olympics Team coaches individuals with cognitive disabilities in Olympic-type sports such as basketball, bowling, soccer, track, and volleyball.

Teaching and Loving Children (TLC) assists teachers in Special Education preschool classrooms.

TURN Community Services spends time with individuals with disabilities at centers throughout Utah County.

Languages

Conexiones connects people whose first language is Spanish to the community by helping them learn English.

English around the World provides English language instruction to non-English speakers through the internet.

L.E.A.D. works in the Latin community by teaching life skills through activities.

Spanish Interpreters interprets for people at local hospitals and schools.

Sub for Santa helps interpret for families in the community who are registering for the organization's services.

Vineyard assists with indexing and the translation of hymns and documents.

Senior Outreach

Adopt a Grandparent builds friendships with the elderly by visiting them once a week.

Project Uplift uplifts military veterans with notes and visits.

Athletics and Coaching

Cougar Coaches works with local youth teams in a variety of sports in association with city recreation departments.



Volunteer Spotlight

Chad Peterson

Chad vividly remembers meeting Jimmer Fredette at the first annual Sports Hero Day held at BYU. Fortunate to have the Y-Serve Director as his father, this was the first of many Sports Hero Days he would attend.

As a freshman at BYU, Chad went to the Y-Serve office to find an opportunity to serve, and found to his surprise, that the Sports Hero Day Program needed volunteers. Fast forward a few years, Chad became a volunteer, then a Program Director, and finally an Executive Director. He added a second event (Sports Hero Day used to be once a year), and was recently chosen to be on the Service Council.

So, what motivates him to continually serve at Y-Serve?

See and Do

It is easy for students to get caught up in their educational goals and lost in their homework. Involvement at Y-Serve helped Chad keep in mind that the world is a much bigger and diverse place, filled with many people with distinct experiences. Sports Hero Day, a program that invites various schools with a large low-income student population and demographic diversity, helped Chad identify with the participants and inspire them to be something greater. Through volunteer examples like Chad's, grade school teachers have also been inspired and have contributed to the growth of the program through word of mouth.



Above: Chad (in the middle) volunteering at Sports Hero Day, the first Y-Serve program Chad participated in as a child.

Take Time to Lift

Time is valuable and Chad is all too familiar with packed schedules that leave little room for relaxing. He has a 16-credit hour semester, part-time campus job, and wife and family to spend time with. Despite this load, he has found that spending anywhere from 15 to 30 minutes completing his program responsibilities throughout the week helps him feel like he is using his time as best as he can while attaining a natural sense of accomplishment.

Serve with Love

Above all, Chad's greatest sense of fulfillment comes when the grade school students—BYU fans or not—arrive at BYU and associate with volunteers and athletes who genuinely want to spend time with them. To Chad, Y-Serve creates an environment of happiness where some people are happy and where others come to receive happiness.



Above: Chad (on the left), participating in Sports Hero Day as a 6th grader.





President's Message

Nathan Espinoza

Walking through the doors of the Y-serve office for the first time, I had many thoughts as to what to expect, but one thought rang loudly in my head: "What am I doing here?" I found this question to be particularly useful as I started to put more and more hours into service. To my joy, I was always able to answer the question with the underlying theme, "You are here, because it IS you." Marion G. Romney stated,

Service is not something we endure on this earth so we can earn the right to live in the celestial kingdom. Service is the very fiber of which an exalted life in the celestial kingdom is made.

The phrase "Bring all to Christ" within this year's Service Council's vision has been a constant reminder to us that He is at the center of what we do. Without Him, we lose who we really are.

It's a truly humbling experience being amongst hundreds of servant leaders exhibiting attributes of our Savior. In Y-Serve we accomplish everything from helping young kids learn to code, to teaching English to people around the world, to comforting hospice families. The light that each person brings into this organization fuels the beacon that lights this community and the world. President Kevin J. Worthen stated,

Service is not just connected to joy in some amorphous, general way. Service is an essential part of the refining process that makes true joy possible.

Each one of us has a mission and purpose in life all of us on different paths leading to one eternal destination. No matter what path you may be on, service has always been the universal language our Heavenly Father has used to communicate and teach his children of their divine potential and nature here on Earth. The gospel and the service we render are inseparable. As a service council, it would have been impossible to create a vision without involving Christ.

I love knowing why I am here. I hope each of us finds the joy in service and feels the Spirit of the Savior as we do so.



Student Service Awards

BYU Service Certification

This award is offered to all BYU students who take the Learning Through Service class, perform 100 hours of community service, and complete a 50 hour capstone project that benefits a community service program.

Austin Brown
Camille Castillo
Dani Dalling
Harrison Marsh

Lindsey Marx
Chance McCutcheon
Camille Mejia
Juan Felipe Mejia

Mimi Onwo
Mackenzie Sylvester
Daniel Zarkou

Lt. Governor's Volunteer Recognition Certificate

This award is offered to BYU students who have given exemplary volunteer service to their community for an extended amount of time.

Jacob Buhler
Michael Duckworth
Hunter Gray

Justin Holmstead
Katelyn Jacobs
Chance McCutcheon

Justin Quackenbush
Madison Violette
Tanner Ward

President's Volunteer Service Award

This award is available to all BYU students and offers bronze, silver, and gold.

Bronze (100-174 hours)

Jacob Buhler
David Chang
Michael Duckworth
Peter Fullmer
Justin Holmstead
Katelyn Jacobs
Brady Moon
Bailey Porter
Justin Quackenbush
Trevor Smith
Tanner Ward

Silver (175-249 hours)

Austin Brown
Clair Ratliff Coburn
Joseph Levie
Chance McCutcheon
Will Ortiz
Mckinsey Owen
Edward Yeats

Gold (250+ hours)

Jason Anderson
Theo Bennett
Dani Dalling
Joshua Gandy
Jenny Le Starge
Juan Mejia
Kayci Nielson
Mara Porter
Mackenzie Sylvester
Madison Violette
Harrison Marsh

Sergeant Larry Morford Award

Christian Barnett

Jamie Taylor Spirit of Service Award

Madison Violette

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