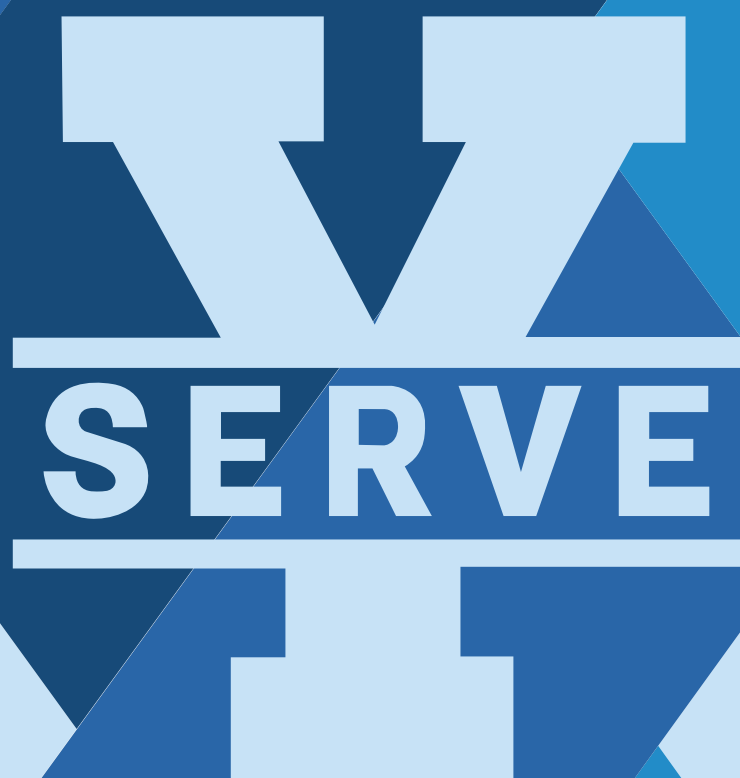




BYU

150

2025-26
Annual Report

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide every student with a meaningful service opportunity, following our Guiding Principles of Safety, Respect, Meaning, Revelation, Selflessness and Reflection.

OUR VISION

We will instill in the heart and mind of every student a desire to give lifelong service.

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Chris Crippen

Director, Center for Service and Learning



Share Your Light

Imagine standing in complete darkness—no streetlights, no phone screens, no glow from a window. Just darkness.

Now imagine a single light appearing. Small at first... but enough to help you see where to step next. Enough to remind you that you're not alone. That's what volunteer student leaders do every day.

They show up as light—quietly, consistently, and often without recognition. They step into places where the path isn't clear and help others find their way forward. A meal delivered. A listening ear. A safe place. A second chance.



And here's the remarkable part: light doesn't diminish when it's shared—it multiplies and magnifies. Doctrine and Covenants 50:24 teaches “That which is of God is light... and that light groweth brighter and brighter until the perfect day.” This light grows as we act. I was reminded of this in speaking with a student who connected Doctrine and Covenants 58 with the idea of sharing our light through the pursuit of our passions and gifts. Verses 26-27 read as follows:

“For behold, it is not meet that I should command in all things; for he that is compelled in all things, the same is a slothful and not a wise servant; wherefore he receiveth no reward. Verily I say, men

should be anxiously engaged in a good cause, and do many things of their own free will, and bring to pass much righteousness;”



Instead of waiting for constant direction, God expects us to move forward in His light and create good, bringing light into the world through our choices. Righteous actions are a source of spiritual light and inspiration. The more we choose good, the more influence and clarity we gain. Light spreads through action and service. The Light of Christ is and always has been within us, guiding us as we choose good.



Mine is the pleasure, as Director of BYU's Center for Service and Learning, to witness the daily blessings of light shared among Y-Serve's staff, student leaders, volunteers, and community members. We, at this university in particular, know that D&C 93:36 establishes that “The glory of God is intelligence, or, in other words, light and truth.” In this sesquicentennial year in which BYU has celebrated 150 years of gifts of light, I express sincere gratitude for all those who selflessly engage in the pursuit to share the Light of Christ with everyone they encounter and leave them a little better through His light and love. ■



Rebecca Smoot

Community Service Coordinator



Sharing the Light Through Service

This year, the Center for Service and Learning (Y-Serve) embraced the theme “Share the Light,” selected by the Y-Serve Service Council. Rooted in the belief that service is a powerful way to reflect the light of Jesus Christ, the theme aligns with BYU’s 150th anniversary celebration. As the BYU 150 theme reminds us, “That light groweth brighter and brighter,” so “that all may be edified of all” (D&C 50:24; 88:122).

In his opening devotional of the fall semester, Lessons in Giving Gifts of Light, President C. Shane Reese invited BYU students, staff, faculty, and alumni to reflect on the university’s purpose as it marks its 150th anniversary. He called the campus community to action, reminding them, “And the goal for you and me this year—our 150th year as a university—is to grow, to celebrate, and to share His light. Indeed, this is our sesquicentennial theme: Celebrating Gifts of Light.” Y-Serve student leaders answered that call through selfless acts of service.

Two impactful new programs exemplify

the ways Y-Serve student leaders share the light. **Shop and Serve** (KIND Fund) is a hands-on service opportunity that connects BYU volunteers with the community by providing essential items for K–12 students in need through local schools. Educators submit requests for clothes, shoes, coats and other necessities for the students. Volunteers then purchase those items using a gift card provided by the KIND Fund during group shopping events. Shop and Serve leaders then deliver the items directly to the school so they can be given to the students.



Lindsey Ogden, the Shop and Serve Lead Program Director, reflected, “It has been a challenge to fit everything in my schedule, but I had an experience after one of our activities where I went to drop off some

items to our Community Service Provider. I gave the clothing to the organization and the social worker in charge told me that she couldn’t share details, but she knew that the family who would receive the clothing was in very serious need..., making it hard for the children. It meant a lot to me to play a small part in the process of helping to clothe God’s children.”

Another new program, **Vida Sana**, is a volunteer-led initiative that helps participants learn about, and potentially prevent, chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and obesity. Vida Sana’s goal is to help individuals make and sustain healthy lifestyle changes. Through small group meetings, accessible education, and community support, participants develop healthier habits. Volunteers teach wellness classes using curriculum created by BYU professors and board-certified doctors, in English or Spanish, while offering encouragement and accountability

Jaxon Van Wagoner reflected on his experience proposing and launching Vida Sana: “This process has taught me so much about service, myself, and how to better love and appreciate others for who they are and better try to understand their life experiences... This experience has taught me that service is not simply about having a good idea or doing something

kind once. It is about having the good idea or doing the one small act of kindness, but then doing it consistently, learning from it, and continually improving it.”



As Y-Serve looks back on this year, we celebrate student leaders who did more than organize service—they shared light. Through their gifts of time, talents and love, they strengthened communities and cultivated a desire for lifelong service that will continue to shine far beyond their time at BYU. ■

Coral Taylor

Community Service Coordinator



This year, the Y-Serve Marketing Team has been an incredible force in supporting and elevating the mission of Y-Serve and its many programs. With many new members joining the team, their energy, creativity, and dedication made a lasting impact. It has been inspiring to see them step into their roles with enthusiasm, working collaboratively to strengthen outreach efforts and ensure that program leaders felt supported.



Throughout the year, the Marketing Team played a key role in promoting Y-Serve programs. Their efforts helped increase visibility across campus through events, campaigns, and consistent communication, allowing more students to become aware of and engaged in service. They once again planned and hosted a

successful Light the World campaign during the Christmas season and ran multiple holiday booths promoting Y-Serve.



This year also marked BYU's sesquicentennial, making it a particularly meaningful time to reflect on the university's legacy of service. It was a personal privilege to lead the Share Your Light Service Campaign, where we encouraged the entire campus to participate in 150 hours of service. As part of the campaign, we hosted service fairs and pop-up service events that benefited both campus and the broader community. These efforts made service more accessible and introduced students, faculty and staff to a variety of organizations and opportunities to get involved. It has been a beautiful year of service and celebration. ■

Heidi Goodsell

Operations Supervisor



Sharing the Light

Volunteers

Thousands of Y-Serve volunteers shared the light during the celebration of the BYU sesquicentennial. Several were recognized for their service in Utah and their additional efforts to make improvements in their areas of expertise. Awards included the Lieutenant Governor's certificate through UServeUtah, and the BYU Service Certification available through Y-Serve. (Awardees are listed on page 16.)



Community Service Providers

The annual Community Service Provider luncheon brought community leaders and student leaders together to reflect on combined efforts this past school year. It is

inspiring to see a room full of people who are so focused on bringing light, relief, and joy to members of the community. We are grateful for the meaningful service opportunities community leaders offer to the student volunteers.

Student Employees

Student employees shared the light in their work. Whether they were assisting people who came to the office for the first time or the leaders who came weekly, they helped the people in the office feel welcomed and supported. Other employees spread the word about Y-Serve programs and captured memories of service throughout the year. Our Y-Serve students continually inspired those around them to join them in sharing light. ■





Art & Music

ADAPTIVE SHOW CHOIR: Practice and perform bi-annually alongside individuals with disabilities who are learning to sing and dance.

CREATIVE CONNECTIONS: Mentor local struggling teens through weekly classes to inspire a love of art, creativity, and learning.

PARTNERS IN MUSIC: Teach music lessons to a local middle school orchestra or band student.



Community Health

COMMUNITY REHABILITATION CLINIC: Assist individuals receiving physical therapy.

FOOD FOR THE SOUL: Share a meal and a conversation with friends who live outside.

FRIENDS FOR SIGHT: Assist with vision screenings for those with limited resources, or with sorting glasses that will be donated.

HOSPICE: Assist homebound and terminally ill patients one hour per week.

MALIHEH CLINIC: Volunteer and interpret at the Maliheh Free Clinic.

MEALS ON WHEELS: Deliver meals to elderly individuals in Provo.

RED CROSS - CRUZ ROJA: Teach classes on CPR, Home Fires, or Disaster Action to the general community; assist donors before and after they give blood.

SHARE YOUR HAIR: Donate your hair for wigs to be given to children and young adults who suffer from medically-related hair loss.

VIDA SANA: Educate the community on healthy lifestyles in hopes of preventing chronic disease.

WELCOME BABY: Meet with new mothers and fathers to support them during their transition into parenthood.



Education & Mentoring

ACCESS: Collaborate in a male-female partnership to plan and carry out activities for a 5- to 11-year-old child.

ANATOMY ACADEMY: Help combat obesity by teaching elementary students about the digestive system and nutrition.

BYU VILLAGE MENTORS: Tutor students in another country and give them encouragement to pursue additional education.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB: Put together meal boxes with basic pantry items for low-income families.

CIRCLE K: Provide physical activities for children in the Utah State Hospital.

COUGAR COACHES: Coach and train youth in a variety of sports through local Parks and Recreation departments.

DIGITAL LITERACY: Teach computer literacy skills to community members at local libraries and community centers.

EARLY LEARNING ESSENTIALS: Read and play with children from low-income families to promote school readiness.

FOSTER LOVE: Participate in activities with groups of foster children at monthly events.

IMPACT: Mentor a teen with a partner and attend monthly group activities with your mentee.

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT: Teach 4th-6th graders financial literacy and business skills through simulations aiding career readiness.

JUNIOR NUTRITION ACADEMY: Teach nutrition lessons to 6th graders in local schools.

KIDS WHO CODE: Help teach coding classes to local elementary students.

K-12 TUTORING: Tutor a local K-12 student for one hour per week on campus or online.



LEADERS OF LITERACY: Improve children's literacy skills by reading with them.

MAPS: Mentor high school juniors and seniors as they work on professional projects being completed for local companies.

MARKETING: Promote Y-Serve service opportunities across campus through social media, digital signage, classroom slides, booths, and program-specific strategies.

MYHOMETOWN PROVO: Empower the community by teaching English, piano, computer, and finance classes.

PROJECT SUNSHINE: Share joy with children who are in the hospital by assembling "sunshine kits" or who are in palliative care by doing activities with them.

PROJECT YOUTH: Lead groups of 5th and 6th graders during an annual event intended to encourage them to go to college.

PROVO YOUTH MENTORING: Encourage at-risk elementary school children to improve their academics and behavior during on-campus activities or off-campus classroom visits.

REFUGEE: Provide online service and offer crucial support to refugee families as they adjust to their new home.

SPORTS HERO DAY: Volunteer as a group leader for 6th graders as they interact with BYU athletes on campus twice a year.

TOPS: Help as a classroom aide for teachers in Provo schools.

TUTORING: Tutor BYU student peers in subjects in which you have excelled.

UNDERWATER ROBOTICS: Mentor middle school students as they build underwater robots for an annual competition.

UNITED WAY COMMUNITY CENTERS: Help children of all ages with homework or engage with recreational activities at a local community center.



Hands-on Service

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP: Make improvements to various public places such as parks, trails, schools, and libraries.

COMMUNITY FOOD BANKS: Sort donations and assemble packages at the Food Bank to assist low-income families in the community.

FRESHMAN SERVICE CORPS: Participate in monthly Y-Serve activities with other service-oriented BYU Freshmen.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: Help build homes for low-income families or help with projects at the Re-Store.

MLK COMMUNITY OUTREACH DAY: Participate in a wide variety of service projects with community members on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

SELF-HELP HOMES: Work alongside a group of families as they build their own homes through a program that is part of United Way.

SERVICE DATES: Attend group date service projects that benefit the community.

SERVICE TO THE WORLD: Meet weekly to make quilts, weave sleeping mats, and work on other projects that are sent to those in need.

SHOP AND SERVE: Shop for clothing for individual students in need K-12 schools.

STOP AND SERVE: Participate in hands-on service projects anytime in the Y-Serve office.



Languages

CONEXIONES: Connect Hispanics to the local community by helping them improve their English reading skills.

ENGLISH AROUND THE WORLD: Provide weekly English language instruction to non-English speakers, usually online.

LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS: Provide translation in the local community.

LEAD: Work in the local Latino community while teaching life skills through activities such as mentoring, tutoring, citizenship exam prep, and healthcare classes.

SUB FOR SANTA: Provide translation during workshops where families that cannot afford Christmas gifts may enroll in the Sub for Santa program; and assist in the sorting and distribution of gifts to families in need.



Senior Outreach

ADOPT A GRANDPARENT: Build lasting friendships with the elderly by visiting them once a week.

LINKING GENERATIONS: Assist with indexing and record-linking, and interview the elderly to record their stories.

PROJECT UPLIFT: Lift veterans' and military service members' spirits through letters, visits, and activities.

UTAH HEALING ARTS: Share your gifts of art, music, dance, and theater while visiting the elderly.



Special Needs

ADAPTED INSTITUTE: Help adults with special needs to more fully enjoy the Institute experience.

ADAPTIVE AQUATICS/GYM KIDS: Help children with special needs develop autonomy through swimming and gym activities.

ATHLETIC CONNECTION: Coordinate service for BYU athletes to introduce sports to children with special needs.

BEST BUDDIES: Mentor an adult with intellectual and developmental disabilities in weekly or monthly activities.

BYU SPECIAL OLYMPICS COLLEGIATE TEAMS: Participate with and cheer for individuals with cognitive disabilities as they play football and basketball.

KIDS ON THE MOVE: Watch over children with and without disabilities while their parents either attend a class or have the evening off.

MEDALLION MANOR: Visit homes for adults with special needs and get them involved in fun activities.

SCENIC VIEW: Participate in Monday FHE activities with adults who have various developmental disabilities.

TEACHING AND LOVING CHILDREN: Be a teacher's aide in a local school district preschool helping students with special needs.

UNITED ANGELS: Assist with an ongoing teen/young adult program for individuals with special needs by teaching life skills and providing recreational activities.

YEARLY STATISTICS



70.5K
Service Hours



29.6K
Volunteers



3.6K
Total Facebook
Followers



6.08K
Total Instagram
Followers



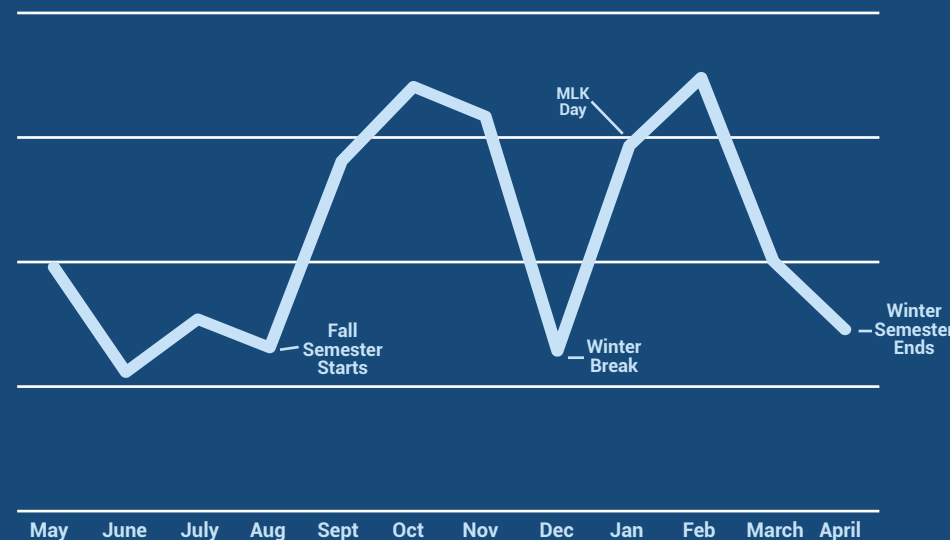
\$2.45M
Economic Impact



410
Student Leaders

Service Hours trend over the Year

■ 2025-2026



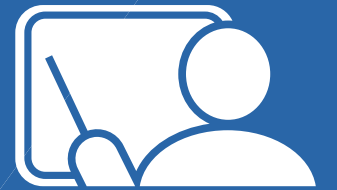
TUTORING STATS



1462
Hours
Tutored



1379
Tutoring
Sessions



250
Tutors



YOUTHLINC'S UTAH YOUNG HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Honorable Mention

Jackson Lewis

Hospice Lead Program Director

Jackson Lewis is dedicated and compassionate, driven by a genuine desire to connect with and care for those in need. In 2022, Jackson joined BYU's Y-Serve program as a hospice volunteer where he gained a deeper appreciation for palliative, end-of-life care. Those he worked with left a lasting impression on him, inspiring him to continue caring for patients by helping promote hospice volunteering around campus. He was later recognized as a stand-out volunteer and was invited to the program's leadership team where he served as the Lead Program Director of over 150 student volunteers. Jackson has also served with the LGBTQ+ community through Encircle where he helped prepare family meals and organize activities for guests on Monday nights – an experience that taught him the value of cultural humility. He is a firm believer in the idea that communities become families when we serve one another.

REFLECTING ON THE YEAR



I have had such special experiences volunteering at the food and care coalition. One of the most meaningful was when I had the opportunity talk and listen to a gentleman who turned to me, looked me in the eye and said something like, "you're actually listening to me. I just get to have a normal conversation with someone." I was so touched at how something as small as listening can have such a big impact on someone.

Paige - Food for the Soul



As an office assistant, I became more aware of the different service opportunities available at Y-Serve. Throughout the semester, I went to a Friends for Sight event, a Service to the World event, the Date Night activity, and the Adaptive Show Choir concert. I brought my friends and spread the word to others to join in the events, and this made serving so much more joyful. When I joined with others to make a difference in others' lives, I felt so happy and fulfilled.

Emma - Staff



One time there was a patient in a nursing home who knocked over a table full of things, and I immediately saw someone check in on the patient, and ask to help her out. Through that act of service we were able to gain a strong relationship with this patient, and we were able to give her a priesthood blessing as she needed one, and didn't know how to get one.

David - Adopt a Grandparent



One experience that felt meaningful to me is the Linking Generations meeting after my Grandma passed. My Grandma had passed on the previous Friday and I was feeling very sad and gripped with grief. Volunteering and being in the company of selfless people gave me comfort and peace in a difficult time.

Taylor - Linking Generations



Y-Serve has made a permanent impact on me by helping me develop Christlike charity and a deep love for service. I know that volunteering in the community will be a permanent endeavor in my life, and Y-Serve has been a large part of developing that conviction to serve.

Acelan - Volunteer



It was awesome to help with the Light the World event, decorate the office, and then see so many students come through. I loved how grateful they were for the small thing we were doing for them and how many students were introduced to Y-Serve because of it.

Bradley - Marketing Team



Every time I have gone to visit my assigned family with Access, the kids teach me so much. It is such a blessing to help them do their homework and have fun playing sports, drawing, and teaching them new skills.

Alberto - Access

Emma Friend

Service Council President



In line with the theme of BYU's 150 anniversary, the Service Council decided to make their yearly theme "Share the Light". The vision of this theme was to encourage all student leaders and volunteers to recognize their unique ability to uplift others through intentional, Christlike service. Throughout the year, we saw this vision come to life as student leaders and volunteers intentionally sought opportunities to bring light to those around them, both within organized service programs and in their everyday interactions.

A primary focus of this year's Service Council was to bridge the gap between Service Council and Y-Serve volunteers. We sought to be more present among the 70 programs, with many members successfully attending each program's events at least once a semester. The Service Council also aimed to focus on and review our theme of "Share the Light" by making it present in all stewardship meetings and the center of all leadership training. Our student leaders and volunteers became familiar with and strived to live the theme to the greatest of their abilities.

These collective efforts contributed to a meaningful year of service across campus and the community. Y-Serve programs saw approximately 70,000 total volunteer hours and an estimated 29,000 volunteers participating in service opportunities and events. More importantly, these numbers reflect thousands of individual acts of kindness and connection. As President Dallin H. Oaks stated

stated in the April 2026 General Conference, "Young men and women are peacemakers when they forgo the temporary pleasure of self-gratifying activities and involve themselves in service projects and other acts of kindness." These numbers also reflect thousands of students who made the choice to be peacemakers and show love to others through their efforts. The Service Council is grateful to have played a role in fostering a culture of service at BYU and remains committed to continuing to "share the light" in the years to come.

As we close out this sesquicentennial year at BYU, I feel deeply grateful for our student leaders, whose service has reflected the spirit of sharing the light. I feel blessed beyond measure to have known these student leaders, Y-Serve coordinators, and each and every volunteer I had the opportunity to work alongside. They both know and live the Lord's teaching to serve their brothers and sisters. They understand that because they have been given much, they too will give. ■



STUDENT SERVICE AWARDS

Lieutenant Governor's Volunteer Recognition Certificate

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



- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Alicia Matthews | Matt Reall |
| Aydan Olsen | Mia Mendoza |
| Benjamin Ivins | Morgen Davis |
| Corinne Ingerson | Samantha Gronau |
| Jacob Palmer | Seth Macdonald |
| Josh Ebbert | |

Sergeant Larry H. Morford Award

This award is given to one BYU student each year in recognition of outstanding service to the community.



Paige Merkley

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.



- | |
|---|
| Acelan Obray
Designed health-related educational materials for the NHPI community |
| Allison Whitehead
Advanced tutor development through trainings and activities |
| Emma Friend
Filmed and edited the Service Council Presidency Master Guidebook |
| Emma Richardson
Published Stop and Serve "How-To" videos |
| Garrett Wride
Incorporated online mentoring to the Refugee program |
| Jaxon Van Wagner
Created the curriculum for and started the Vida Sana program |
| Micah Russell
Expanded the Project Youth program to offer future presentations at schools |
| Mikayla Foster
Added a career prep workshop to United Way's Digital Literacy program |
| Taylor Dean
Developed a training for the BYU Law and Corpus Linguistics project |

Share Your Light



BYU
Center for Service
& Learning