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USU Jon M. Huntsman School of Business

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Business Week Students Serve

Every year for Business Week, the Huntsman School Business Council, a group of student leaders representing all business students, puts together a service project to benefit the community. This year, they elected to serve the Huntsman Cancer Institute. In collaboration with representatives of HCI, they decided to undertake three projects: create fleece blankets, decorate composition books into journals, and write letters of encouragement.

It began when James Butterfield from the Business Council called the HCI to inquire about their most pressing needs. When Blanca Raphael from the HCI noted that patients would really appreciate warm blankets, notes of encouragement, and notebooks for journals, the students stepped up and committed to provide a six-month supply of all three items.

"We really wanted to make the service project Business Week's focus this year," noted Business Council president Scott Laneri.

More than 500 students participated in the service project and worked for three days to complete the number of items needed for HCI.

“We are happy that so many students took time out of their busy schedules to give service, and we hope it helps establish and reinforce the culture of service and giving at the Huntsman School," Laneri said.

By the end of the week the students completed 60 journals, 180 blankets, and had written 480 letters for HCI patients.

“There are lots of people that have worldly success, but don’t have a lot to show for it. But Jon Huntsman has left a huge legacy because of all he does to improve the lives of others," Business Council member James Butterfield said. “If we want to find satisfaction in our lives, it’s not through our own success, but through improving the lives of those around us.”

“As students it's easy to think that serving, helping others, and giving back are things we will have more time for once we graduate,” Laneri said. “The reality, however, is that if we don't learn to do these things now, we likely won't make them a big part of our lives once we leave USU.”

Many of the students at the Business School receive scholarships from generous donors.
“I like to give back to this school in some way because of everything it has given me,” Butterfield said. “Having the scholarships I do has allowed me to volunteer in the community and really focus on my grades, instead of worrying about day-to-day expenses.”