

June 20, 2013

UNITED WAY OF SALT LAKE

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## Savage Employees Volunteer, Garden with Midvale Students to Strengthen Community Engagement

SALT LAKE CITY — Photosynthesis may be one of the biggest words elementary school students will learn, but a plant's process of turning sunlight into energy is one of fundamentals of early science education. United Way of Salt Lake (UWSL), Savage, and Canyons School District have collaborated in an effort to give students in Midvale a hands-on science demonstration by helping to build garden boxes at four Title 1 schools.

More than 700 Savage employees and spouses from around the country will contribute more than 2,000 hours in this event as part of the volunteer component of the supply chain company's annual leadership conference. Projects will take place at Copperview, East Midvale, Midvale and Sandy Elementary Schools, as well as the Boys and Girls Club of South Valley. In addition to gardening, Savage will assemble 2,200 garden packets for students, which include a garden journal, seed packets and a garden guide. The botanical effort assists the District's focus on science, technology, engineering and math — or STEM.

"Savage is focused on contributing to the communities in which we live and work," said Allen Alexander, CEO of Savage. "Our partnership with United Way for this event and on other efforts throughout the year is one way we enable our team to give back."

Savage is in the process of moving its offices from Cottonwood Heights to Midvale and is using this opportunity to strengthen ties and give back to the community. Savage management also hopes this project will be the first of many ongoing community service efforts in Midvale. To encourage this goal, employees are allotted three hours a month to volunteer.

"Giving back to our community is part of Savage's corporate culture," said Deborah Bayle, President and CEO of United Way of Salt Lake. "Every employee, including their senior management team, is willing to roll up their sleeves, get involved and become part of community-wide change. Their volunteer work with the Canyons School District will touch the lives of thousands of children in the Midvale community."

As a strategic partner of United Way of Salt Lake, Savage constantly encourages its employees to get involved and give back. Last year, 100 percent of Savage employees made a donation to United Way of Salt Lake and Savage contributed \$1 million to UWSL's *Changing the Odds* campaign to expand programs and services at United Way Neighborhood Centers and develop new opportunities for children and families. Savage employees also serve as tutors, mentors, and readers at United Way Neighborhood Centers to provide much-needed academic support to children in Title 1 schools. The company was recently honored as UWSL's 2013 Corporate Partner of the Year.

**WHEN:** Friday, June 21, 2013 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** Midvale, Copperview, East Midvale and Sandy Elementary Schools, as well as The Boys and Girls Club of South Valley

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**United Way of Salt Lake is working to advance the education, income, and health of our neighborhoods and communities to ensure that every child succeeds, every step of the way, from cradle to career. We invite everyone to be a part of the change. You can give, you can advocate, and you can volunteer. That's what it means to LIVE UNITED. Join the conversation by visiting our blog at [uwslhub.org](http://uwslhub.org), or find out more at [uw.org](http://uw.org).**