

My contribution to UN sustainable mountain development through community service: Hygiene Kits

On October 13, 2025, members of the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF) came together for a hands-on service project to support the local houseless community. I assisted during the event, helping ensure that participants worked together effectively while contributing to the assembly of hygiene kits. This project allowed students to engage in meaningful community service while supporting broader goals of sustainable development and social responsibility.



Cherise Armstrong with UIMF members Abbie Fisher and Antoine Mwamba assembling kits.

During the event, volunteers worked in teams to assemble hygiene kits containing essentials such as soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, razors, socks, and feminine

hygiene products. A total of 40 kits (20 for men and 20 for women) were prepared for donation. Cherise Armstrong from the Orem-Lindon Rotary Club guided the process, and participants included Natalia Figueroa, Erryn Lammi, Abbie Fisher, Nicholas Robinson, Alexander Woltjen, Louyoko Nianza, Janet Ruiz, Roland Kabongo, Antoine Mwamba, and Janessa-Michelle Purcell. My role was to assist in organizing supplies in bags and supporting the group to work efficiently and collaboratively. The Rotary Club's involvement ensured that students could assemble high-quality kits while learning about the challenges faced by local community members.



Natalia Figueroa and Rowland Kabongo working on hygiene kits.

Assisting in this project provided experience in teamwork, communication, and coordination. By supporting the group, I practiced collaboration and facilitation skills, helping the team stay engaged and focused. This type of hands-on involvement also strengthens professional development and prepares students for future service-oriented or UN-related programs.

Assisting with this project was a rewarding experience. As someone from Washington State, it was especially meaningful to see the needs of our local community here in Utah, including many houseless individuals, and to have the opportunity to help in a tangible way. I realized that

contributing even in a supportive role can have a meaningful impact. Being part of a collaborative effort highlighted the value of teamwork and community engagement. I also gained a deeper understanding of how local service connects to global issues, showing that meaningful action begins with small, coordinated efforts.



Group photo

I would like to thank Cherise Armstrong and the Orem-Lindon Rotary Club for their guidance, as well as all the UVU students who participated. The 40 hygiene kits assembled during this project will provide essential care to local community members in need, demonstrating student contributions. Whether leading or assisting can make a positive and lasting impact.

By: Natalia Figueroa, Foreign Affairs Club President