

Photos: Hugs and warm wishes for the holidays at Teddy Bear Brigade

By [Deseret News](#) Dec 17, 2015, 6:39pm MST

Enaya Carroll waits her turn as Bentley Taggart hugs a teddy bear before passing it down the line of the Teddy Bear Brigade during American Heritage School's 20th annual Teddy Bears for Christmas Service Project in American Fork on Thursday. In keeping with the spirit of sacrifice associated with service projects, the students earn their own money for a bear that they will donate to children at the Ogden Rescue Mission. The teddy bears are then put under the school Christmas trees, and on the day of the Teddy Bear Brigade, students line the three main hallways of the school and each bear is hugged over and over as it is passed down the line. Last year students at the school donated more than 600 bears to the mission, and more than 10,000 bears have been donated since the project began.



Enaya Carroll, Bentley Taggart and Ethan Welcker pass a bear down the line of the Teddy Bear Brigade during American Heritage School's annual Teddy Bears for Christmas Service Project in American Fork on Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015. The project benefits homeless children at the Ogden Rescue Mission. | [Kristin Murphy, Deseret News](#)



Atalie Webber hugs a bear and passes it down the line of the Teddy Bear Brigade during American Heritage School's annual Teddy Bears for Christmas Service Project in American Fork on Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015. The project benefits homeless children at the Ogden Rescue Mission. | Kristin Murphy, Deseret News

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First-grader Cami Melecio hugs a teddy bear and passes it down the line for more hugs in the Teddy Bear Brigade during American Heritage School's annual Teddy Bears for Christmas Service Project in American Fork on Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015. The project benefiting homeless children at the Ogden Rescue Mission. The students raised money themselves to purchase the bears for donation. | Kristin Murphy, Deseret News

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Grant Frazier, Andrew Furner, Ben Dubravac and Nathan Griffith put on a holiday performance at American Heritage School in American Fork on Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015. | Kristin Murphy, Deseret News

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Eighth-graders sing Christmas carols at American Heritage School in American Fork on Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015. | Kristin Murphy, Deseret News

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Bears decorate Christmas trees before the start of the Teddy Bear Brigade during American Heritage School's annual Teddy Bears for Christmas Service Project in American Fork on Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015. The project benefits homeless children at the Ogden Rescue Mission. | Kristin Murphy, Deseret News

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Students sing Christmas carols at American Heritage School in American Fork on Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015. | Kristin Murphy, Deseret News

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Bears decorate Christmas trees before the start of the Teddy Bear Brigade during American Heritage School's annual Teddy Bears for Christmas Service Project in American Fork on Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015. The project benefits homeless children at the Ogden Rescue Mission. | Kristin Murphy, Deseret News

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Christopher Watson gets excited for the start of the Teddy Bear Brigade during American Heritage School's annual Teddy Bears for Christmas Service Project in American Fork on Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015. The project benefits homeless children at the Ogden Rescue Mission. | Kristin Murphy,
District Manager