Companies throughout Utah are stepping up to help prepare today’s students for the jobs of the future, and Ivanti is a prime example of how it’s done.

“We adopted Jordan School District a couple years ago,” said Bruce Cutler, STEM Education Outreach Coordinator with Ivanti. “We allow our employees 16 hours of paid volunteer time each year that they can use to volunteer with any STEM-related activity of their choice.”

Ivanti employees also participate in the Utah STEM Fest, Pathways to Careers and STEM-related events in Jordan School District. In addition, several team members from Ivanti have volunteered the last two summers with the Midvale Boys and Girls Club, helping middle school students learn coding.

“Our goal is to expose these kids to potential career opportunities in computer programming,” Cutler said. “Most of these kids would never have considered that career path until they came to these summer trainings.”

The program began in June and ends mid-August. Ivanti employees visit once or twice a week to work with the middle school-aged children. David Leimsieder, director of the Midvale Boys and Girls Club, has seen how beneficial this opportunity is for the children.

2016 Ivanti Volunteer Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employees volunteering</th>
<th>Total volunteer hours spent</th>
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<td>79</td>
<td>478</td>
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Learn more about STEM Action Center programs at [stem.utah.gov](http://stem.utah.gov)
“This program is really phenomenal,” Leimsieder said. “It’s really an opportunity to expand kids’ exposure in technology; it’s an opportunity they wouldn’t normally have. Most of these kids here do not have access to computers or WiFi at home. There are so many tech companies in Midvale, but most of the kids here have no idea what those companies do. Having the volunteers from Ivanti has given these kids the opportunity to see what their future can be.”

The Boys and Girls Club’s mission is to help millions of kids and teens develop essential skills, make lasting connections and have fun.

Tori Rodriguez, team director with the Midvale Boys and Girls Club, echoed Leimsieder’s remarks, adding the program has strengthened the children’s overall skill set.

“These trainings have been extremely helpful in more ways than one,” Rodriguez said. “Their ability to communicate with each other has improved, and when they play board games their problem solving skills are more developed.”

Cutler hopes that Ivanti can expand its reach to rural school districts and that they can set an example for other companies.

“We’re hoping other companies copy what we’re doing,” Cutler said. “And now with the STEM Mentor Exchange it will be a way to find what’s available in your community.”

STEM Mentor Exchange is a mobile phone application that connects industry directly with educators to help meet their needs inside and outside the classroom. You can learn more at http://stemmx.com/.