Elsa Newsome  
**Major:** Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education  
**Total Volunteer Hours:** 312  
**Places Volunteered:**  
- Little Lambs  
- Little Wonders  
- SEE ME  
- Sunrise Elementary School  
- Oakwood Elementary School  
- Scholastic Book Fair  
- Horizonte Instruction and Training Center  
- Aggies Elevated  
- Special Needs Activity Program  

**Brief Capstone Project Details**  
I worked with Horizonte Instruction and Training Center. I collaborated with their family literacy department to create lessons and activities to help parents how to read and interact with their young children who are learning language. I created examples, games, and activities for the school to use and send home with these families. I met with their library and with other teachers to make sure I was meeting the needs of the young parents and the parent who are from other countries. I put all my written materials in a canvas course so that the teachers and students will have access to the course and lessons.

**Highlights:**  
Being a member of the Community Engaged Scholars program at USU was such an amazing opportunity. I became more involved in the Cache Valley community that I originally thought I was going to be. I loved hearing about all the sustainability projects going on at USU and throughout the valley. I learned a lot about diversity and service. CES opened my eyes to the needs of the community and what can happen if everyone puts in effort to improve our world. I loved that our advisors were involved and reached out to me. Brhianna made sure I was on track and doing everything I was supposed to. Overall it was a very positive experience.

**Advice for future scholars:**  
My advice is to be proactive. 300 service hours sounds like a lot, but if you are able to find organizations and activities that you are interested in than you can get 300 hours fairly easily. Also make sure you are keeping track of your hours as you go. Make sure you are staying on track. Start thinking about your capstone project early. Start reaching out to organizations to see if they need help or volunteers. Have fun! Don’t be stressed about everything you have to do. As long as you are organized you can do it!