

RECYCLING FOR GOOD

BY: SHELLY CODNER, AREA 4

High School students from all over Iowa, participated in making and packaging upcycled chemo caps created from new, misprinted tee shirts rescued by Iowa Waste Exchange (IWE) Area Resource Specialist, Alicia Presto who serves Area 4 of the IWE. Area Resource Specialist, Shelly Codner (Area 2) with the assistance of Financial and Business Supervisor, Jennifer Wright and multiple volunteers prepared the materials and led the *Recycling for Good* session at the recent Student Leadership Conference held at Johnston High School on October 31, 2022.



Students completed over 125 chemo cap packages during four sessions. The completed caps were placed in drawstring bags, also made from new, misprinted tee shirts, that students also completed

Participating students ironed the Iowa Association of Student Councils' logo onto each drawstring bags. Chemo caps were packaged in the bags to keep them clean and sterile prior to distribution.

The caps will be distributed by the Johnston High School Student Council, which under the leadership of their

advisor, Rachel Jensen, holds an annual Cancer Care Package Drive. During this event, Johnston student council members pack cancer care packages for distribution to cancer patients undergoing or recovering from cancer treatment.

Several students stated that they chose to participate in the chemo cap session because they knew one or more persons who has or is currently undergoing cancer treatment. One student stated that they had lost of loved one recently to cancer which is why he chose to participate in this particular session. Vicki Carstens, Executive Director of the Iowa Association of Student Councils stated, "I LOVED how you used the IASC logo on the bags. Our theme this year was *Linking with Leadership* and I think that is exactly what you accomplished in your session--in so many ways. THANK YOU so much for providing your expertise and ideas to Iowa leaders at the Iowa Student Leadership Conference."



For more information on the Iowa Waste Exchange including hosting a similar event or activity at your school or organization visit <https://www.iowadnr.gov/FABA>. For additional information regarding the mission and vision of the Iowa Association of Student Councils visit <https://www.iowastudentcouncils.org/>.