



## Who we are

Community Action Partnership of Utah (CAP Utah) is the statewide association for Utah's nine Community Action Agencies. The Community Action network envisions an end to poverty in Utah. Our member agencies work toward this vision every day by providing services to low-income families and individuals across the state.

CAP Utah advocates for, supports, and provides training and technical assistance to Utah's Community Action Agencies, utilizing our collective strength to address the causes of poverty. Our advocacy focuses on low-income housing, work supports and asset building. Our biggest internal effort to fight poverty comes from our support of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program.

### **The Promise of Community Action:**

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

## The architect of the War on Poverty

Robert Sargent Shriver Jr. passed away on Tuesday Jan 18th at the age of 95. Sargent Shriver changed the world and touched the lives of millions. He was the driving force behind the creation of the Peace Corps, he founded Job Corps, Head Start, VISTA and Community Action. With boldness and tenacity he set about creating solutions to alleviate the suffering of many, his legacy has left an indelible mark in the history of this nation. His thirst for public service has inspired generations of Americans to become involved in their communities. His spirit will always be found in the work of Community Action.

As we mourn his loss, and celebrate his work, may we all be inspired to take the opportunity to recommit to this war on poverty. Although decades have passed since Sargent Shriver began this work, the challenges faced by millions of Americans remain. As we begin a new year, let us dedicate more of our time, more of our resources and more of our spirit to winning this war.

Join us in remembering the inspirational work of the American Idealist. Opportunities to become involved are all around, to find out about volunteer/donor opportunities in your community, contact your local Community Action Agency. Most importantly however - look for opportunities to honor his traditions everyday.

**Community Action Partnership  
of Utah**

230 South 500 West, Suite 260  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101  
801-433-3025  
801-596-2011 (fax)  
[www.caputah.org](http://www.caputah.org)

[www.facebook.com/CAPUtah](http://www.facebook.com/CAPUtah)

**Member Agencies**

**Bear River Association of  
Governments - serving Box  
Elder, Rich and Cache counties.**

170 North Main  
Logan, UT 84321  
435.752.7242  
435.752.6962 (fax)  
1.877.772.7242 (toll free)

[www.braq.dst.ut.us](http://www.braq.dst.ut.us)

**Ogden-Weber Community Action  
Partnership - serving Weber  
county.**

3159 Grant Ave.  
Ogden, UT 84401  
801.399.9281  
801.399.9887 (fax)

[www.owcap.org](http://www.owcap.org)

**Family Connection Center -  
serving Davis and Morgan  
counties.**

1360 East 1450 South  
Clearfield, UT 84015  
801.773.0712  
801.774.8267 (fax)

[www.fccdavis.org](http://www.fccdavis.org)

**Salt Lake Community Action  
Program - serving Salt Lake and  
Tooele counties.**

764 South 200 West  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101  
801.359.2444  
801.355.1798 (fax)

[www.slcap.org](http://www.slcap.org)

**Uintah Basin Association of  
Governments - serving Daggett,  
Uintah and Duchesne counties.**

330 East 100 South  
Roosevelt, Utah 84066  
435.722.4518  
435.722.4890 (fax)



Paul Leggett - Executive Director

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## West Valley City to Host Third Annual Financial Fitness Fair



On January 29, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. the West Valley City Family Fitness Center (5415 West 3100 South) will host the 3rd Annual Financial Fitness Fair. The event will offer free tax preparation by IRS certified volunteers to both English and Spanish speaking households. Combined Household income must be below \$49,000 to qualify. In addition, families will be able to learn about smart money skills, credit reports, housing assistance, utility assistance, energy savings and much more. Program information for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Utah's Premium

**Community Action Services and Food Bank - serving Summit, Utah and Wasatch counties.**

815 S. Freedom Blvd. Suite 100  
801.373.8200  
801.373.8228 (fax)

[www.communityactionprovo.org](http://www.communityactionprovo.org)

**Six County Association of Governments - serving Juab, Millard, Sanpete, Sevier, Piute and Wayne counties.**

250 North Main Street  
Richfield, UT 84701  
435.896.9222  
435.896.6951 (fax)  
888.899.4447 (toll free)

[www.sixcounty.com](http://www.sixcounty.com)

**Southeastern Utah Association of Local Governments - serving Carbon, Emery, Grand and San Juan counties.**

P.O. Box 1106  
Price, UT 84501  
435.637.7323  
435.637.5448 (fax)

[www.seualg.dst.ut.us](http://www.seualg.dst.ut.us)

**Five County Association of Governments - serving Beaver, Iron, Washington, Garfield and Kane counties.**

1070 W. 1600 S. Building B  
P.O. Box 1550  
St. George, UT 84770  
435.673.3548  
435.673.3540 (fax)

[www.fcaog.state.ut.us](http://www.fcaog.state.ut.us)

**Utahns Against Hunger - serving the State of Utah.**

455 East 400 South, Suite 407  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
801.328.2561

[www.uah.org](http://www.uah.org)



Partnership for health insurance (UPP), Medicaid, Home Energy Assistance Target program (HEAT), and Food Stamps will be available. Several banking institutions will also be ready to help families open accounts.

The Fair will be highlighting the 2011 Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) day, a day set by the IRS to recognize and make taxpayers aware of the credit. The EITC is a refundable federal income tax credit for low- to moderate-income working individuals and families. Congress originally approved the tax credit legislation to offset the burden of social security taxes and to provide an incentive to work. Also, the Financial Fitness Fair will be introducing the involvement of the Believe In Your Future campaign with the VITA program. The goal of Believe in Your Future is to serve as a centralized, coordinated access point for useful and reliable information and tools families need to face the broad variety of money-related issues and financial challenges that may arise over the course of their lives.

For more information or to schedule a free tax preparation appointment please dial 2-1-1.

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## The 2011 Legislative Session





The 2011 Utah Legislative General Session began January 24, 2011. There are several major issues that will likely define much of the debate on the hill:

### Budget Cuts

The Utah Legislature is constitutionally required to balance the state's budget every year. Though revenue numbers are finally in the black, three years of budget cuts and the inability to fund growth in recent years means the budget will still require further reductions. The legislature is looking to close a \$437 million shortfall and has asked state agencies to present 7% and 10% budget cut scenarios. Many programs in Utah are struggling after years of tightening budgets and further cuts will be a real challenge.

### Immigration

There are an estimated 16-25 bills that will be addressing immigration in Utah this session. The most controversial has been Rep. Sandstrom's enforcement-only bill that mirrors much of the punitive Arizona legislation. Other bills contemplate guest worker programs, employment and enforcement. Discussions have been ongoing for the last few months and an attempt is being made to roll all of the different bills into an omnibus bill on immigration. Rep. Sandstrom has indicated his bill would not be included in the proposed omnibus bill.

### Education

Public education enrollment growth has not been funded for several years, and the Governor's budget does propose to fund 2012 enrollment growth. The legislature is looking at funding school enrollment increases for both 2011 and 2012.

### Medicaid Privatization

Increases in the Medicaid caseload and the fact that Medicaid consumes nearly 10% of the state budget have the Utah Legislature considering outsourcing (privatizing) Medicaid enrollment as well as eliminating all discretionary areas of coverage under Medicaid. There are general concerns about privatization as only two other states have outsourced Medicaid - Texas, which canceled the contract after a year, and Indiana, whose efforts resulted in a lawsuit. Utah's service delivery system is a national model and one of the best

in the country and privatization could negatively impact services.

For more information about these issues please contact Melissa Smith at 801 433 3025 ext. 6 or [melissa@caputah.org](mailto:melissa@caputah.org)

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## **Time for Taxes**



Each year February seems to approach more rapidly, making tax season a year round program and not just a seasonal one. This year the Earn it. Keep it. Save it. is more ready than ever! The coalition worked steadfast over the summer in order to make this year smooth. While that may not always be the case, there are some definite improvements worth mentioning.

Earn it. Keep it. Save it. has a new website - take a moment to check out [www.utahtaxhelp.org](http://www.utahtaxhelp.org), it's very user friendly and can get you lots of information about this tax season!

There is a new financial marketing campaign - this a result of a great partnership with the Utah Council on Financial and Economic Education and the Believe Campaign. Want to learn more? Visit - [www.believeinyourfuture.org](http://www.believeinyourfuture.org)

Expanded remote file - this year we are taking the innovative remote file program all over the state reaching even more people.

Earn it. Keep it. Save it. is ready for tax season please help the coalition by spreading the word and the [website!](#)

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# Vote for VITA

Each year Earn it. Keep it. Save it. works with the State Legislature to secure funding of the Earned Income Tax Credit and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance funding. This funding is the backbone of our program as it supports the Regional Coordinators positions. If you have a moment speak with your Legislator about what this program means to you and your community. Here are some quick facts just in case you want a little help!

## KEY FACTS

- Estimates suggest that as much as 25% of households qualify for the EITC but are not receiving it. If these families were to claim the EITC, it could bring an additional \$70 million into our economy.
- VITA leverages both state and federal dollars returning 100% of the investment through federal and state returns.
- Over 40 businesses are key partners investing through in-kind donations of space, technology, supplies, outreach and volunteers.
- Over 100 partners statewide offering support and services, 15 are government offices and agencies.

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## DEMOCRACY DAY

Monday  
January 31<sup>st</sup>  
2011 Utah  
State Capitol



A Day for  
Citizen  
Action and  
Education

**Stand Up. Speak Out. Take Action.**

REGISTER NOW AT [WWW.CAPUTAH.ORG](http://WWW.CAPUTAH.ORG)

If you have ever wanted to learn more about the political process, meet your legislators or tour the Capitol, register now for **Democracy Day 2011**. This event will be held on **January 31, 2011** at the Utah State Capitol. It starts at 11.00am and includes a **free lunch** with your legislator. Space is limited so be sure to **sign up early**. Click [here](#) to register now.

Once you have registered you will receive a confirmation email with more information.

Click [here](#) to donate now to support this event.

### **The Days Events**

#### **Rotunda**

11:00 Registration begins  
11:30 Program Begins  
12:00 Lunch with your Legislator  
1:30 Legislative Speakers  
2:00 Legislative Tours

#### **Auditorium**

2:45 Refreshments  
3:00 Program

#### ***Keynote Speaker: Chief Justice Durham***

3:40 Advocacy 101

*This event is sponsored by the following:*



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