

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

Action in Community Action

Over the past few weeks I've had several meetings that have allowed me time to think about the model of Community Action, why it's important and why I like it. Community Action is more than just providing services. Community Action is about ending poverty – for families, for communities and ultimately for the country. It's a tall order, but a challenge I think we are up to.

CAP Utah has recently joined with a new campaign called Half in Ten. The Half in Ten campaign believes that a clear goal and tested strategies to end poverty are crucial for success. To do this, they have set a goal to reduce poverty by half in ten years. This is a goal that we can achieve through good public policy decisions, strong emergency programs that prevent poverty and the creation of an economy that works for everyone.

In Utah we have made good progress toward ending chronic homelessness, let's commit to ending poverty as well. Join [Half in Ten](#) and join CAP Utah in reducing poverty and meeting the promise of community action.

themselves and each other.

**Community Action
Partnership of Utah**

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801-433-3025
801-596-2011 (fax)
www.caputah.org

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.brag.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

**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

**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

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

330 East 100 South
P.O. Box 100
Cortez, UT 84307
801.437.2100
801.437.2100 (fax)
www.ubagov.org



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More Than Just Taxes!

While the Earn it. Keep it. Save it. coalition demonstrates its commitment to the community through tax preparation, it is only one step in eradicating poverty. Recently, much focus has been placed on financial education and asset development. Financial education empowers communities and families to take control of their finances and more importantly believe that they can find a pathway out of poverty. Financial education has an obvious value meanwhile asset poverty continues to be poorly understood. Imagine a sudden job loss or a medical emergency. When a family facing either of these situations finds themselves unable to maintain their home, car or food costs they are asset poor – essentially asset poverty is the absence of the safety net.

An asset can be anything from a car to medical insurance to a home. Assets help families keep daily and monthly costs low ensuring that they can continue to save, thus replacing “getting by” with “getting ahead”. The Earn it. Keep it. Save it. coalition combines these principles by utilizing refunds to encourage families to build assets. In Utah we have key programs such as the [Individual Development Account Network](#) and [Utah Saves](#) that help Utahns gain assets. These programs are key to the eradication of poverty but are just one part of the picture. Asset

Roosevelt, Utah 84066
435.722.4518
435.722.4890 (fax)

**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

**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

**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

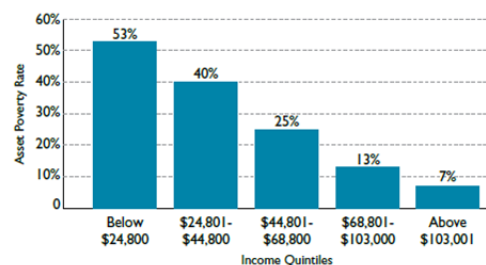
**Five County Association of
Governments - serving
Beaver, Iron, Washington,
Garfield and Kane counties.**

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



creation will continue to be a crucial part of eliminating poverty and growing our economy. There is no better time to make it more than just part of tax season and a big part of Utah's policies.

ASSET POVERTY BY INCOME IN UTAH



To learn more about Asset Poverty or to get involved with the Earn it. Keep it. Save it. coalition's work - contact Melissa Jensen at 801 433 3025 ext. 7 or mjensen@caputah.org

Housing Happenings



There are a lot of things to keep up on in the housing world...

Initial funding for the **National Housing Trust Fund** (NHTF) is included in HR 4213, the American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010. This funding will amount to \$4.1 million for extremely low income housing development in Utah. The bill passed out of the House on May 28th and will be modified in the Senate any day. CAP Utah is confident

that the NHTF funding will survive as the bill makes it through the federal legislative process.

If you have a free hour or so, take a look at the CAP Utah report: [*Why is your Home so Expensive? Lowering the Cost of Housing through Local Utah Governments.*](#) It is informative and interesting.

Utah's renters received important protections on May 13th when SB 45 went into effect. This bill will have a greater positive effect on the general public than almost any other bill out of Utah's Capitol this year. Among other things, the bill:

- Requires landlords to respond to emergency repair requests within 24 hours, substantially correct other major repairs within 3 days, and substantially correct all other repairs within 10 days.
- Allows tenants to deduct up to two months' rent (without a need for three repair quotes) or break their leases if landlords fail to correct deficient conditions in their rental units.

Lastly, Congress is looking at HR 4868, the ***Housing Preservation and Tenant Protection Act of 2010***, which will provide important tools needed to preserve privately owned federal- and state-assisted housing as well as protect tenants. It includes a provision to create a national catalogue of subsidized housing for the benefit of preserving low-income housing which reaching the completion of its federal compliance. CAP Utah is currently working on such a catalogue in this state.

Farewell

This month Community Action Partnership of Utah bids a fond farewell to two key people in

the Community Action network. Beth Cottam and Shawn Teigen. Beth Cottam is retiring after decades of dedicated service in Southern Utah. Beth serves on the CAP Utah board and has worked as the Human Service Director with Five County Association of Governments for many years. Beth has worked tirelessly to further the mission of Community Action and leaves a legacy of hard work and commitment.



Beth Cottam with CAP Utah Staff

Additionally Shawn Teigen is moving on after over 3 years as the Housing Policy Analyst with Community Action Partnership of Utah office. Shawn has been an invaluable part of the CAP Utah team and has contributed much during his time with us.

Shawn says:

"I am going to miss my job as Housing Policy Analyst with CAP Utah. Nonetheless I'm going on to pursue some projects that are interesting, important, and without me may not come to fruition.

I have done many interesting things at CAP Utah. I have lived in "economic poverty" for a month, worked on important legislation at the Capitol, educated people on issues of advocacy and housing, worked on providing funding for Earned Income Tax Credit outreach, and learned an immense amount from my colleagues about affordable housing and Community Action.

Several concepts that I thought of previous as interesting ideals have been solidified as reality during my time at CAP Utah. Chiefly

among these are that I am now committed to equality, housing affordability and social justice in ways will define my life henceforth.

it was nice working with you all."



Good luck to Beth and Shawn as they move onto their new endeavors.

National Community Action Month Awards Luncheon



On May 27, 2010, Community Action Partnership of Utah hosted the National Community Action Month award luncheon at the Lion House in Salt Lake City, UT. The keynote address, The Power of Partnership,

was presented by Mr. Nate Leishman, Manager, Humanitarian and Emergency Response. He shared his experiences of partnership with various non-profit groups in responding to disasters such as the Haiti and Chilean earthquakes, Hurricane Katrina and the 2004 Tsunami. He reiterated the importance of working together to achieve success in serving the community.

CAP Utah had the privileged of presenting seven award winners, nominated by the Community Action Agencies throughout the state. The mission and vision of Community Action is growing stronger every year. CAP Utah received many nominations for hard working volunteers, all who deserve a round of applause. The award winners for 2010 are as follows:

Public Official of the Year
Mayor Peter Corroon

Community Partner of the Year
2-1-1 Information and Referral

Excellence through Community Action –
Urban
Myra Close

Excellence through Community Action – Rural
Marsha Perkins

Jayne Thomas Grassroots Volunteer
Recognition
Barbara Robinson

Outstanding Service in the Volunteer Income
Tax Assistance Program
Keith Leonard

Recognition of Excellence
Rep. Steven Mascaro

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