

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.

Community Action Partnership of Utah

230 South 500 West, Suite 260

Parking meters collect money to support the homeless

A few days ago I read a news story highlighting the donation parking meters that have recently been placed in several locations in downtown Salt Lake City. These parking meters were the result of a collaborative effort of local businesses, city leaders, law enforcement and social service providers. The parking meters are intended to serve as an easy way for people to donate their spare change to do some good. The money raised goes directly to support the Homeless Outreach Service Team (HOST), which provides much needed services to Salt Lake City's homeless population. The meters, which are out-of-use city parking meters, are painted bright red. So far there are seven red meters with plans to have more as other city parking meters become obsolete. Such a simple idea has so far generated over \$1000, with more to come as the project extends to an online and sponsorship campaign.

As I read this story I was reminded that it is often the simple and small things that can make the biggest change. This initiative was the result of a group of people getting together to talk about issues facing their community. In this instance the goal was to curb pan-handling, however instead of implementing city ordinances to stop pan-handling a solution was found that still allowed people to support the homeless members of their community. This community-focused response is the key to change – as Mayor Ralph Becker states “We encourage the public to support the HOST program by turning spare change into real change...”

I encourage each of you to take this same initiative and work to bring about change that is meaningful for our

Salt Lake City, UT 84101
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.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

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
Roosevelt, Utah 84066
435.722.4518
435.722.4890 (fax)

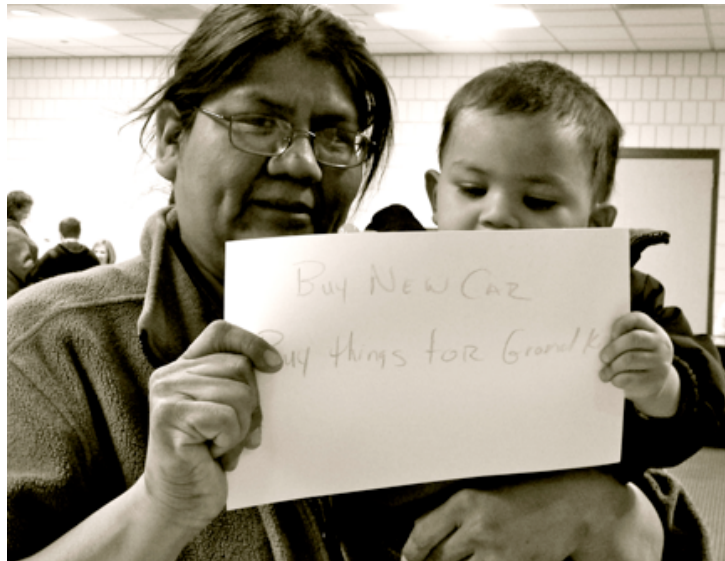
Community Action Services

communities.



Paul Leggett - Executive Director

Results 2010 Tax Yr. - Earn it. Keep it. Save it.



Community Action Partnership of Utah (CAP Utah) is so pleased to share the outcomes of the Earn it. Keep it. Save it. (EIKISI) coalition - it was in fact another very successful year.

- *15,792 households received free tax preparation through utilization of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.
- *721 volunteers donated more than 25,000 hours to provide tax help to their communities.
- *The 721 volunteers helped filers save an estimated \$3 million in tax preparation fees.
- *More than \$24 million was distributed in tax refunds to filers.
- *\$8 million was acquired through the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

In addition to tax preparation, filers were provided resources to help them utilize their tax refunds to develop assets for their households. Clients were encouraged to

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
435-893-0700
435-893-0750 (fax)

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.seualq.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

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

learn more about budgeting and the importance of saving and could sign up on location to become a Utah Saver. At all VITA sites purchasing savings bonds and practicing smart banking habits were encouraged along with paying down debt or investing in an emergency fund.

For more information on Earn it. Keep it. Save it. and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program contact Melissa Jensen at 801.433.3025 or mjensen@caputah.org or visit the Community Action Partnership of Utah website at www.caputah.org.

We must commit to not harm the most vulnerable among us



There is widespread bipartisan agreement that the nation cannot sustain its current levels of debt. Balancing the budget and reducing the deficit require tough choices, but they also require a recommitment to protect the most vulnerable from budget cuts, as we have done in all of the major deficit reduction packages of the last two decades.

Community Action Agencies are a primary source of direct support for the more than 316,000 individuals living in poverty in Utah. In the last three decades, the income gap between rich and poor has widened. Unemployment has stayed around 9% for the last two years, and economists project it will remain at these high levels into the foreseeable future. Yet pending deficit reduction plans would devastate the Community Services Block Grant, the core funding for Community Action Agencies.

Governor Herbert has expressed his support of community action in declaring May 2011 as Community Action Month in the state of Utah. His support along with our network and community partners will help in the Fiscal Year 2012 funding battle, but more is needed. We must recommit as a state, and nation, that deficit reduction must not harm the most vulnerable among us, and does not increase poverty or inequality. We must



recommit to our support of COMMUNITY ACTION.

For comments or questions concerning public policy please contact Drew Martinez at drew@caputah.org or 801-433-3025 ext. 4.

Agency Highlight

Each month we highlight just a small part of the work of Utah's Community Action Network



Salt Lake Community Action Program (SLCAP) runs numerous programs to assist those in need

including; Head Start, Emergency Food, HUD Counseling, Weatherization, Homeowners Assistance, Rental Assistance, Advocacy and Employment Readiness.

Today's highlight includes a brief summary of SLCAP's **Employment Readiness Program.**

SLCAP Employment Readiness Program offers individualized, one-on-one help finding a job. An Employment Specialist will assist participants to assess their skills, collect and organize work history, develop a strong resume and cover letter, practice interviewing and set up email accounts.

Participants are taught how to perform an effective job hunt by using all job search avenues such as performing on-line and off-line searches, networking, cold calling and registering with the Department of Workforce Services. Computers and Internet access are available for job search activities for people using SLCAP Employment Readiness services.

To learn more about Salt Lake Community Action Program's work, visit their website at www.slcap.org

Our mailing address is:
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230 South 500 West
Suite 260
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

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