



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
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
801-433-3025
801-596-2011 (fax)

It's July!

It's the dog days of summer. It's hot. And if you're like me, you aren't thinking about the holidays and rush of excitement that comes with spending a winter evening around the fire. There is something about that holiday time of the year that also makes you think about helping your neighbor, donating to a local charity, or volunteering at the local soup kitchen.

While it may be summer and those warm fuzzy feelings might just make you feel sweaty, now is as good of a time as any to do some work with your local Community Action Agencies. Poverty exists year round. It is no less tragic in July than it is in November. If we are to make a difference as a community than we must band together throughout the year to provide resources and help for our neighbors. Community Action Agencies rely on their partners, volunteers and donors to make a difference every day. We need the support of our communities to move us toward our goal of ending poverty in Utah.

Don't wait for the snow to fall. Take a little time now to volunteer or to make a donation. Maybe it's time to organize the closets and get rid of some of those old items that could furnish a newly rented apartment or clothe a child. Call 2-1-1 and they will hook you up with the perfect opportunity!



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 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

From Investment to Impact - 2009 Tax Season Outcomes

Scale document down

Earn it. Keep it. Save it.

Utah's Campaign to Strengthen Financial Stability through Free Tax Preparation

2010

15,366 total tax returns filed (+5.2%)*
4,774 EITC tax returns filed (+19.6%)*
\$7.3 million EITC distributed (+31%)*
\$22.6 million total refunds distributed (+30.1%)*
\$2.9 million estimated tax preparation fees saved
617 total volunteers (-10%)*
13,395 2-1-1 calls received (-0.2%)*

* Percent change from 2009

Measuring the success of non-profit programs is often an impossible task. For many programs it is the face of the clients that are served that testifies of a programs success. The Earn It. Keep It. Save It. coalition has worked with it's many partners, to not only measure success through the expressions of relief and gratitude from it's clients, but also to provide solid measurable programmatic outcomes. There is no greater pairing than outcomes that are both felt and seen.

For tax year 2009, more clients were served, more EITC was distributed, and ultimately more money was saved on tax preparation fees. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program has brought in over 22 Million federal dollars into Utah's economy. Complimenting the increase in dollars is the fact that families benefiting from the Earned Income Tax Credit increased by 20%. This credit represents the money that goes back to families most in need, offsetting the taxes that are taking out of their paychecks monthly. Earn it. Keep it. Save it. prides itself on the families served and the increase in services shared, striving consistently to serve our community in a way that no story is lost and no number goes unseen.

**Thanks to all who made both types of
outcome possible.**

Unemployment Insurance

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

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



Extended



On July 22nd, Congress passed a standalone bill to continue unemployment insurance extensions through the end of November. Almost 3 million unemployed workers were without unemployment compensation for 50 days. All states have a limit on the amount of time an unemployed worker can receive unemployment insurance. Extended unemployment compensation is available for those that have used up all of their state benefits. With a national unemployment rate of 9.5%, 45% of the unemployed have been looking for work for more than six months and almost 25% have been unemployed for over a year.

In Utah, individuals who have lost their job through no fault of their own can receive up to 26 weeks of unemployment compensation. Utah's unemployment rate is 7.2% and 97,519 Utahns were unemployed in June. Nearly 15,000 Utahns saw their unemployment benefits expire while Congress debated whether or not to approve another extension.

Unemployment benefits stimulate the economy by putting dollars in the hands of consumers so money can continue to circulate during the recession. Consumer spending is key to economic recovery and continued economic growth. In addition, unemployment benefits help stabilize families until the economy is on the upswing. The passing of the unemployment benefit's extension will go a long way towards helping Utah's families remain stable during the economic downturn. The current extensions will go through the end of November and another debate on continued extensions is anticipated at that time.

Providing Peace of Mind -

the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)



Community Action Partnership of Utah has recently been able to see firsthand the difference that the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is making in the lives Utah Residents. CAP Utah is working with Voices for Utah Children on a project to increase legislative support for the EITC.

CAP Utah has met with seven different individuals and families who qualified and received some part of the potential \$5,600 EITC and asked them to share their story. Whether it be a single working mom taking night classes, a father of six pursuing his masters degree, or a single man obtaining full-time employment for the first time since conquering addiction - the message was the same, times may be hard, but they want to do something for themselves to improve their current situation.

One family in particular stands out. The Penas moved to Utah several years ago so Mr. Pena could attend Brigham Young University's Pre-Med Program. Shortly after their move, Mrs. Pena became pregnant with their first child and had to make the hard decision to leave her job as a paralegal. Their daughter was born with a terminal brain condition known as holoprosencephalia and was given a life expectancy of less than a year. However she surprised her doctors and is now 18 months old and, despite worsening conditions, is considered a medical phenomenon. The Penas received approximately \$3000 in EITC, in addition to their regular tax refund. This increased refund allowed them to not only pay off their current rent contract in advance but also to fly to Maryland to attend a National Institute of Health conference specifically for those affected by holoprosencephalia.

Like many of the other families and individuals who receive the EITC each year, the Penas were pleasantly shocked and surprised to find out they qualified. They are grateful for the opportunities it has opened up for them. For families and individuals the EITC provides peace of mind, not having to worry about where they were going to find the money to pay for bills, creating emergency funds, or paying for much needed medical procedures. The EITC gives many working Utah households a chance to take charge of their funds rather than live from one paycheck to the next.

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