

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

Poverty in Utah

September has brought with it new data from the U.S. Census Bureau. Last week poverty rates for the U.S. were released and they show a record increase in poverty in the country. The national poverty rate has risen to 14.3 percent. Reliable state data will be released this week, but we expect to see a similar story – record increases in poverty. Utah's poverty rate is always lower than the national rate though; often leading to the question – if it isn't as bad here as it is in other places, why worry about it? Well, at CAP Utah we believe that one person living in poverty is one person too many. We are fortunate to live in a state where poverty is not as prevalent as in many other parts of the country. This also means that we live in a place where poverty can be ended. As we look through the press releases and data sheets translating these numbers into action we are asking all of you to talk to your neighbors, friends and legislators about the struggles low-income families face. Now is the time to create the political and social will to end poverty in Utah.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. B. A. A." or similar, written in a cursive style.

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

2010 IRS Nationwide Tax Forum



The week of August 23rd, Community Action Partnership of Utah was represented by Casey W. Christoffersen at the 2010 IRS Nationwide Tax Forum. For three days, attendees had the opportunity to participate in informative seminars and workshops covering topics including due diligence with the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), and rules to consider when working with the First-Time Homebuyer Credit. Products and services supporting the IRS e-file program were displayed by dozens of exhibitors, and representatives from the IRS Oversight Board, Taxpayer Advocate Service, and many other tax related organizations were present to resolve any questions that might be posed. As we are continually working to improve our involvement with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program we will look to implement new strategies and tools offered during the three-day conference.

For more information about Utah's Statewide VITA program - Earn it. Keep it. Save it. Please contact Melissa Jensen at 801 433 3025 ext 7 or mjensen@caputah.org

United Way of Salt Lake - Day of Caring 2010

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 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.



On September 8th nearly 3,000 volunteers from 90 different companies took the day off from their jobs to complete more than 130 service projects across the Wasatch Front.

In the words of one volunteer, "People do it because they care about their neighbor. That's the spirit of Utah."

Activities to mark the 18th annual United Way Day of Caring kicked off in the morning and lasted through the afternoon. Beginning at 7:30 a.m., the volunteers gathered for a free breakfast at The Gateway to kick off the work day before they disbursed to various projects.

CAP Utah staff participated by volunteering at South Kearns Elementary Head Start. During the day the CAP Utah staff painted three sheds and weeded a play area.

Staff Spotlight

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



CAP Utah is pleased to welcome a new addition to the team. M. Drew Martinez joins us as the Affordable Housing Policy Analyst.

Drew comes to Community Action Partnership of Utah having previously worked in case management connecting homeless and low income individuals to substance abuse treatment programs. Also, having experience working with volunteers connecting them to service for Utah's homeless population. Drew also served an internship in the State Senate during the 2009 legislative session, which further inspired his work with state government.

Drew has his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Utah, and is currently working on his Master degree in Public Administration with a focus on Public Policy. During his studies he became focused on alleviating homelessness and structural barriers placed on low income individuals in Utah.

**To contact Drew please call 801 433 3025 ext 4 or
drew@caputah.org**

New Poverty Data Released!

The U.S. Census Bureau released new poverty data from the Current Population Survey on September 16. The Current Population Survey (CPS) is the longest-running survey conducted by the Census Bureau. This release includes the Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage Current Population Reports, which provide national estimates of income, poverty, and health insurance coverage.

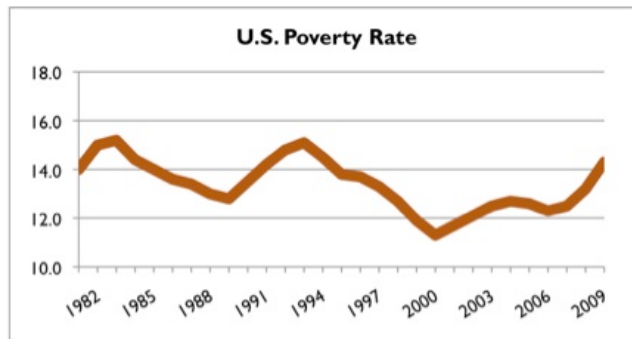
According to this release 14.3% of Americans lived in poverty in 2009, the highest percentage since 1994 and the fastest increase in the poverty rate in several decades. The increase in poverty at the national level is, in part, due to record high increases in job losses. Both Utah and the nation have been experiencing large increases in unemployment.

Though the CPS is not a good measure for state data due to the small sample size, it is an appropriate measure of regional information. Both the Midwest and the West saw significant decreases in Household Median Income in 2009.

One of the most drastic changes highlighted by the CPS is the increase in the number of poor nationally. 43,569 Americans lived in poverty in 2009, the largest number in 50 years.

Children and Americans between ages 18-64 experienced a gradual increase in poverty over the past few years, while Americans 65 years and over have actually experienced a decrease in poverty nationally. Both males and females experienced more than a 1% growth in poverty in 2009 and White non-Hispanic, Black, and Hispanic Americans also experienced increased poverty rates.

State-level estimates for poverty, income and health insurance will be released on September 28, 2010, based on data from the 2009 American Community Survey (ACS).



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