

# FACT SHEET

January 2011

**REQUEST: Fund at 100% of Fiscal Year 2011 Budget**

## Pamela Atkinson Homeless Trust Fund

The Pamela Atkinson Homeless Trust Fund is the State's primary funding mechanism to assist non-profit agencies in providing critical services to the homeless population in an effort to help them off the streets and on to self-sufficiency. From caseworkers to emergency shelter, the Pamela Atkinson Fund is the cornerstone to ending homelessness in Utah.

We realize that cuts need to be made to the State budget. However, **the Pamela Atkinson Fund should maintain Fiscal Year 2011 funding level.** The Utah Homeless Management Information System shows an increase in emergency shelter usage by individuals and families every year since 2005. Utah's Point-in-Time Count has also shown an upward trend in homelessness, with families being the fastest growing segment of the homeless population.

### KEY FACTS

- The fund helps end chronic homelessness through the Pathways Program and other programs that require an upfront cost but make long-term fiscal sense.
- Partly because of the Pamela Atkinson Fund, Utah is one of the leaders in the nation's fight to ending chronic homelessness. Keeping funding at the current level is essential to ensure Utah continues to help homeless families and individuals.
- Statistics:<sup>1</sup>
  - There were an estimated 15,642 men, women and children who were homeless in 2010. Homelessness has increased by 0.75% since 2009; however, chronic homelessness has declined by 42%.
  - Families comprise over 43% of Utah's homeless population. They are mostly female headed single parent families with young children.
  - Over 28% of homeless people are age 17 or under.
  - There were 11,883 homeless school children in one day (not included in the above estimates).<sup>2</sup>

**FOR MORE INFORMATION contact Drew Martinez at [drew@caputah.org](mailto:drew@caputah.org)**

<sup>1</sup> All statistics are taken from the Utah Point-in-Time Count, January 27, 2010

<sup>2</sup> These children were counted using the broader Utah State Office of Education definition of homeless children

Community Action Partnership of Utah  
230 South 500 West, Suite 260, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101  
office: 801-433-3025 ex4  
fax: 801-596-2011  
[www.caputah.org](http://www.caputah.org)

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### FROM WHERE DOES REVENUE FOR THE FUND ORIGINATE?

- A General Fund appropriation from the Legislature
- Donations from taxpayers through a checkbox on the Utah income tax form

#### WHAT DOES THE TRUST PROVIDE?

- Emergency shelters 33%
- Case management 27%
- Transitional housing 19%
- Permanent housing solutions 12%
- Meals 5%
- Outreach and day centers 4%

