“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.”
As each year passes, I look back at the accomplishments of the Community Action Agencies in Utah. I believe that each of these ten agencies have done a remarkable job of helping to put a dent in poverty.

Our task has been daunting and continues to reinforce the need for our services to our low-income population throughout Utah. Each community, both rural and urban, has their own unique set of objectives to address the plight of the poor.

One thing that is constant is the fact that the depressed economy has driven more and more people into needing services that the Community Action Agencies provide. We all continue to see people who were previously considered middle-income, but because of the economy, they have lost that stability. Factors contributing to this are the high number of foreclosures, the high unemployment rate, the number of people needing food assistance and help paying their utility bills, and the growing number of those who need help with a crisis rent payment to stave off eviction and the threat of becoming homeless. All of these factors have contributed to the growing number of people that each agency serves.

While reviewing this annual report, you will see that Community Action staff and Boards across the State of Utah are doing their best to address these conditions. We pledge that we will continue to work with our much-valued community partners, volunteers, and our funding sources to collectively remain at the forefront of serving the low-income population and assisting them toward self-sufficiency and self-reliance.

We have seen many important and positive changes in our communities over the years, and I sincerely hope you will join us in our valuable mission so that our program participants can break this horrible cycle of poverty. It is also my hope that the future will see an improved economy so that there will be much less demand and need for our services. Until then, the Community Action Agencies of Utah will do our best to continue meeting the critical needs in our respective communities. Please join us in our valuable mission of serving the poor.

With warm regards,

Cathy Caputo Hoskins, CCAP
Board President
In 2010, many Utah families came face to face with poverty for the first time. Families and individuals who had never thought about poverty issues were suddenly dealing with poverty firsthand. People live in poverty throughout our state. Low-income Utahns are in every community, and may even live right down the street. They may not appear to be “poor”, but every day is a struggle as they try to find enough money to feed their families, pay their rent and utilities, and make ends meet.

There is no question that poverty is on the rise in Utah, and Utah’s Community Action Agencies are working tirelessly to address all types of poverty. For decades, Community Action Agencies have used their wealth of experience and expertise to make significant change, individual-by-individual and community-by-community.

Utah’s Community Action network consists of ten CSBG funded agencies that envision an end to poverty in Utah. Our agencies work toward this vision every day by providing services to low-income families and individuals across the state. In this report you will find some of the highlights of this work. While this report focuses mainly upon the data-driven outcomes of Community Action Agencies, of equal importance are the countless stories that tell the real human impact, the families that have somewhere to call home, the children who are no longer going to bed hungry, and the communities growing stronger and stronger as neighbors become involved and work together. I hope that over the coming years Utah’s Community Action network can grow more robust and continue to contribute to ending poverty in Utah.

Poverty in Utah is real. It doesn’t have to be.

Sincerely,

Paul Leggett
Executive Director
Community Action Partnership of Utah Staff

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casey@caputah.org

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Policy Analyst
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What is Community Action?

Community Action

Community Action Agencies (CAAs) were started in 1964 by the federal government with one goal in mind: to eradicate poverty in America. Today there are over a thousand Community Action Agencies nationwide serving 96% of the nation’s counties; some are a part of local governments, while others are private non-profit organizations. They all continue to work toward that singular goal set over 40 years ago. Because each community is unique, the approach each Community Action agency takes to fight poverty is also unique.

Here in Utah, there are nine Community Action Agencies, each with its own programs and services, but all with the same goal to eradicate poverty in Utah. All Community Action Agencies are members of the statewide Community Action Partnership of Utah (CAP Utah). On the following pages, you will find a description and report of each of these agencies and what they do to change the lives and improve the circumstances of the people in their individual communities.

Community Services Block Grant

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) is the core of Community Action. CSBG is a federal funding stream that provides the base funding used by Community Action Agencies to improve conditions and deliver direct services to people struggling to achieve self-sufficiency. Utah’s nine Community Action Agencies are each governed by a local board of directors made up of public and private sector community leaders and low-income individuals. Using CSBG as their core funding, CAAs leverage other public and private resources to weave a network of support for families and communities.

CAP Utah is the network of these public and private CAAs and (one statewide anti-poverty organization) that work together to address poverty in Utah through locally designed and community-based programs. This report is a snapshot of community needs that CSBG and CAAs respond to with programs that focus on outcomes that alleviate the suffering of many low-income families in Utah.

Poverty in Utah

• 11.5% of Utahns lived below the poverty level in 2009, compared to the national poverty rate of 14.3%.
• 316,217 Utahns lived in poverty in 2009, 58,568 more than in 2008.
• Utah’s average unemployment rate for 2010 was 7.7%.
• There was a 20% increase in the Utah child poverty rate between 2000 and 2009. This means over 32,000 more children are living below the poverty line.
• Utah had the 14th-lowest poverty rate in the nation in 2009. Mississippi had the highest (21.9%) and New Hampshire the lowest (8.5%).
• More than one in four female-headed households in Utah lived in poverty in 2009.

Community Action in 2010

• Served 267,408 individuals and 98,365 families.
• More than 85% of the families served were at or below the poverty level.
• Provided emergency food services for 338,557 Utahns.
• 1,480 people were successful with employment services.
• 3,671 households received emergency rent or mortgage intervention.
Poverty in Utah is real. It doesn't have to be.
Mission: The Bear River Association of Governments (BRAG) is a voluntary organization of local governments that facilitates the coordination of federal, state and local programs for the solution of mutual problems in Box Elder, Rich, and Cache Counties. BRAG provides a wide variety of services and manages multiple programs that focus on finding long-term solutions for many issues in the region, including poverty.

Poverty Rate for Service Area: 12.1%  
CSBG Allocation: $202,851  
CSBG ARRA Allocation: $353,203

In 2010 Bear River Association of Governments:
- Over 381 households were assisted in claiming tax refunds that brought $739,924 back to Box Elder, Rich and Cache counties.
- BRAG helped 26 unemployed individuals obtain a job through job search assistance, financial support, and partnership with the Utah Department of Workforce Services.
- 142 seniors received assistance.

Client Statistics
- Of the families served, 93% were at or below the poverty level.

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Bear River Association of Governments
170 N. Main  
Logan, UT 84321  
www.brag.utah.gov  
435-752-7242
Mission: The Community Action Services and Food Bank (CASFB) is dedicated to fostering self-reliance in individuals, families and communities by providing a variety of programs and solutions designed to address local needs and issues faced by those living in poverty.

In 2010 Community Action Services and Food Bank:
- Served 27,946 individuals and 9,518 families.
- 28,770 families and seniors received emergency food and were connected to other services to help them stabilize.
- Collected and distributed 1.5 million pounds of perishable foods donated from local grocers and big box stores and another 1.8 million pounds of food donated through community food drives.
- Provided food to 20+ other community groups and weekly delivery of food packages to senior centers and the low-income senior housing complexes.
- Worked with 572 families in 2010 to help them avoid foreclosure through foreclosure prevention counseling. Of those families, only 21 homes were foreclosed on.
- Provided transportation, clothing, car repair, and other employment support services for 295 households. Many of these had lost their employment due to the recession.
- Provided financial assistance for 273 families and therefore kept them in their homes.
- Provided utility assistance and energy conservation education to 5,100 households.

Client Statistics
- Of the families served, 80% were at or below the poverty level.
- 50% were families with children.
- 43% were children.
- 33% were Hispanic.

Services Provided

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<td>Community Planning</td>
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Poverty Rate for Service Area: 10%
CSBG Allocation: $662,315
CSBG ARRA Allocation: $889,938
Mission: The Family Connection Center purpose is to protect children, strengthen and shelter families and individuals, foster self-sufficiency, and facilitate a caring community.

1360 East 1450 South
Clearfield, UT 84015
www.familyconnection4u.org
801-773-0712

Poverty Rate for Service Area: 6.%
CSBG Allocation: $134,069
CSBG ARRA Allocation: $281,532

In 2010 Family Connection Center:
• Served 9,665 individuals and 3,482 families.
• 76 families received Case Management Services and 37 obtained employment.
• 510 families (1,374 children) were provided Christmas assistance.
• 252 monthly emergency food supplies were delivered to the St. Marks Garden Senior Community.
• 71 families were provided rent/mortgage assistance to maintain their housing.
• 20 families were provided utility assistance.
• 31 families received 217 emergency shelter nights.

Client Statistics
• Of the families served, 89% were at or below the poverty level.

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<th>Services Provided</th>
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<td>Volunteer Income Tax Assistance</td>
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<td>Sub 4 Santa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case Management</td>
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<td>Emergency Assistance</td>
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Mission: The Five County Association of Governments purpose is to Plan, Prepare and Partner with federal, state and local governments to strengthen the role of southwestern Utah local officials in the execution of state and federal programs at the local level.

In 2010 Five County Association of Governments:
- Served 11,517 individuals and 5,188 families.
- 2,779 customers received case management through the emergency food pantries, emergency shelters, adult and alternative high schools.
- 20 completed the employment readiness course; 18 were placed and 15 completed the 50-hour internship.
- 103 clients participated in the internship program at 26 different job sites.
- Scholarships were provided to 75 adult students to continue their education.

Client Statistics
- Of the families served, 82% were at or below the poverty level.
Mission: Ogden-Weber Community Action Partnership (OWCAP) inspires those in poverty to become self-sufficient through innovative services and collaborative efforts.

In 2010 Ogden Weber Community Action Partnership:
• Served 1,666 individuals and 818 families.
• 2009 households were assisted through OWCAP's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance fund, claiming tax refunds that brought $3,901,618 back to Weber County.
• Served over 2,000 individuals through the emergency food pantry.
• Served 2,500 low-income individuals a month from the local community accessed services and programs at the Marshall White Community and Recreation Center.

Client Statistics
• Of the families served, 86% were at or below the poverty level.
Mission: Salt Lake Community Action Program’s mission is to eliminate the paradox of poverty in our affluent society.

In 2010 Salt Lake Community Action Program:
- Served 125,222 individuals and 34,607 families.
- Provided 64,000 food orders to 103,000 individuals.
- 1,064 households were assisted with online applications for food, financial, and medical applications with the Department of Workforce Services. 435 of these applications were verified as being approved, bringing food and financial benefits over $103,000 in monthly benefits. 933 clients were referred to ongoing health care services; 100 of these clients received immediate care for acute medical needs.
- 210 clients found employment due to their participation in the Employment Readiness Program.
- Housing and Financial counseling provided 1300 households with comprehensive housing counseling in delinquencies, default, foreclosure, reverse equity mortgage for senior citizens, and pre-Home purchases.
- Helped stabilize 433 families in housing through the “Homelessness Prevention Rapid Re-Housing Program.” This program was 89% effective in preventing homelessness.
- Helped 18 people obtain PCN health coverage.
- SLCAP worked with Palmer Court Homeless Housing Center and The Road Home to create a summer program for local teenagers struggling with homelessness and poverty. 21 teenagers participated in the program.

Client Statistics:
- Of the families served, 89% were at or below the poverty level.
- 54% of the families served in 2010 were in severe poverty.
- 65% of the households served had 3 or more household members. 32% of these households had five or more members.
Mission: Through its programs and partnerships, the Community Assistance Department, will promote self-sufficiency and well being through empowering those in poverty by alleviating immediate challenges and by addressing underlying causes through community action and advocacy.

In 2010 Six County Association of Governments:
• Served 2,323 individuals.
• Helped 45 families and 12 individuals avoid eviction and stay in their homes.
• Provided 39 families and 90 individuals with funds to repair their cars so that they could continue to get to work. 11 families and 37 individuals received fuel for their car, a minor repair on their home, or assistance keeping their utilities on so they could sustain themselves.
• Supplied 1,700 clients with information and referrals in 2010, helping them get the services they need from various community agencies and programs.
• Helped 20 individuals pay for ongoing schooling that would not have continued due to limited or no income. 19 of the 20 students completed programs or graduated from college.
• Helped 17 families maintain housing by providing them up to 3 months of rental assistance.
• Provided 1 to 3 nights of shelter for 76 homeless families.

Client Statistics
• Of the families served, 90% were at or below the poverty level.
• 38% of the people served were homeless.
• 18% were disabled.
• 52% of households served had no income.
• 34% of individuals served were under 18.
• 18% of households served were headed by single parents.

Services Provided

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<td>Community Services Block Grant</td>
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Mission: Southeastern Utah Association of Governments (SEULAG) focuses on moving low-income individuals and families out of poverty through strengthening human service programs with support of the whole community.

In 2010 Southeastern Utah Association of Governments:
- Served 2,113 individuals and 919 families.
- In 2010, the food banks helped feed 1,735 families and seniors with emergency food and distributed 16,234 boxes of food.
- 133 low-income senior citizens received in-home and congregate meals through SEUALG in 2010.
- 38 clients received emergency dental work through the SEUALG dental program.
- Through its Second Chance Program, SEUALG helped four recovered drug abusers get counseling and other services and assisted them in finding stable employment.
- Eight families were able to obtain or retain housing in 2010 because they received rental or deposit assistance from SEUALG.
- Eight families were provided shelter, education and resources to victims in crisis and of violence.

Client Statistics
- Of the families served, 87% were at or below the poverty level.
- 22% served are single parent families.
- 83% served are not Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin.
- 69% served rent and do not own their own home.
Mission: The Uintah Basin Food Pantries will provide needed food for those who would otherwise go without. To eliminate hunger in Daggett, Duchesne and Uintah Counties.

In 2010 Uintah Basin Association of Governments:
- Served 5,061 individuals and 2,165 families.
- Helped 174 individuals and 70 families avoid or get out of homelessness by providing referrals and funding to local shelters and motels for short-term housing to help them get back on their feet; or by providing rent and utility assistance to families to help them avoid homelessness.
- 52 single adults participated in financial courses for clients seeking Homeless Prevention services.

Client Statistics
- Of the families served, 95% were at or below the poverty level.
- Served 2 families and 9 individuals in the domestic violence program.
Mission: Community Action Partnership’s mission is to advocate, support and train Utah’s CSBG funded agencies, utilizing our collective strength to eradicate poverty.

Poverty Rate for Service Area: 11.5%
CSBG Allocation: $135,000
CSBG ARRA Allocation: $105,000

In 2010 Community Action Partnership of Utah:
- Led the statewide Earn it. Keep it. Save it. coalition in preparing 15,792 tax returns, resulting in $24 million in refunds and an estimated $3 million saved in tax preparation fees for working families in Utah.
- Facilitated the 2010 Democracy Day at Utah’s Capital to educate the community on government involvement.
- Provided Community Assessments for Utah’s Community Action Agencies.
- Provided training to nine Community Action Agencies in ROMA, Fiscal accountability, and governance and database administration.
- Published the 2010 Annual Report on Poverty in Utah.
- Collaborated with local advocates to protect and increase funding for low-income programs.
Utahns Against Hunger

Mission: Creating political and public will to end hunger in Utah.

455 East 400 South, Suite 407
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
www.uah.org
801-328-2561

Poverty Rate for Service Area: 11.5%

In 2010 Utahns Against Hunger:
• Secured funding to assist 6 farmers markets to accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)/food stamps.
• Distributed over 10,000 “Need Food Help” resource brochures to community partners throughout the state.
• Distributed 70,000 summer food fliers throughout the state.
• Assisted over 300 individuals in locating Summer Food sites in their community.
• Assisted 1,200 clients in finding community resources and informed them about federal nutrition programs.
• Worked with Wasatch Community Gardens and Youth City to educate 90 youths through the Nutrition Project.
• Helped educate 540 individuals through the co-sponsored Social Soup Lecture Series on issues of food and how it intersects with our lives and the policy, environmental, and social implications of food and food policy.

Services Provided

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Serving the State of Utah
The mission of Community Action Partnership of Utah (CAP Utah) is to advocate for, support, and train Utah’s CSBG funded agencies, utilizing our collective strength to eradicate poverty.