

UTAH HOUSING COALITION



UTAH HOUSING COALITION NEWSLETTER

UHC NEWS

End of the Year, 2017

Staff Introduction



The Utah Housing Coalition is excited to announce they have added to the team, hiring a Director of Policy and Advocacy, Celesta Nagel.

Celesta comes to us most recently with a background in disability employment, but she has a lot to offer the coalition with experience in policy and advocacy, deep understanding of the Utah Legislature, and a passion for Housing issues and just housing policy.

Celesta has her Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Utah and is currently Pursuing her Master of Social Work with a focus on Social Change and innovation through the University of Southern California's virtual academic program.

Please join us in welcoming Celesta to the coalition!



Open House

Utah Housing Coalition is having their annual holiday open house at their new office location:

**230 S 500 W Suite 216
SLC, UT 84101**

**Wednesday, December 13th
3:00 PM-6:00 PM**

Come join us for this informal gathering to network, meet our new staff person, and celebrate the upcoming holidays.

Come hungry and ready to mingle!

Utah Housing Matters Awards 2017

Each year at the annual conference, Utah Housing Coalition awards various individuals and agencies for their championing work in the field of housing. This year at the Utah Housing Matters Conference, seven awards were presented to leaders in our community. These awards and their recipients are as follows:

Member of the Year- Marion Willey and Utah Nonprofit Housing Corporation

This award is given to a member organization of the Utah Housing Coalition that has gone above and beyond their call of duty to help advance our mission.

Agency of the Year- Bryce Rim Apartments-Workforce Housing

This award is presented to an agency that best exemplifies ways of dealing with the affordable housing community and serves as a model for how to accomplish goals in an efficient, professional and unique manner.



Jack Gallivan Legacy Award- Tim Funk

This award is given to a person who has had a tremendous positive impact on affordable housing and community issues in our state, just as Mr. Gallivan did throughout his life.

Rural Project of the Year- Self Help Homes, Elk Ridge City

This award is given to a rural project that demonstrates great leadership in financing, targeting, and building design.

Urban Project of the Year- Project Homeless Connect-A Day of Hope

This award is given to an urban project that demonstrates great leadership in financing, targeting, and building design.



Person of the Year- Tammy Hunsaker, Salt Lake City Redevelopment Agency

This award is presented to an individual in our community who has shown leadership and innovation in their field or who has gone above their call of service to advocate for, preserve and grow the affordable housing inventory in our state.

UHC Housing Leader on the Hill- Lieutenant Governor Spencer Cox

This award is presented to an individual who works as part of the State Legislature to advance housing resources and legislation that benefits housing and homeless programs in Utah. This person Demonstrates leadership beyond the norm, advocates for those who have no or very poor housing and shelter and works tirelessly for all of Utah's citizens.

MORE INFORMATION

For a complete look into the 21st annual Utah Housing Matters Awards Packet-including award information and recipient bios, click the link below:

[HTTP://WWW.UTAHHOUSING.ORG/UPLOADS/2/6/4/4/26444747/2017_AWARDS_BROCHURE.PDF](http://www.utahhousing.org/uploads/2/6/4/4/26444747/2017_AWARDS_BROCHURE.PDF)





Rental Facts

According to a 2017 study, the housing wage in Utah is \$17.02 per hour. That is, to afford a modest, two-bedroom unit at \$885 (Fair Market Rent) in Utah, a renter must earn an hourly wage of \$17.02 which is 235% of the minimum wage.

In the state of Utah, a minimum wage worker must work at least 94 hours per week to afford a 2-bedroom rental or 76 hours per week to afford a 1-bedroom rental at Fair Market Rent

FAST FACTS

22%

This is the percent of renter households at extremely low income.

75%

Pay more than 50% of their income to housing.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

See the Out of Reach Report on the National Low Income Housing Coalition's Website

WWW.NLIHC.ORG

Save the Date:

Advocacy 101, Hosted by the Utah Housing Coalition

Wednesday, January 3rd

11:00am

Palmer Court

999 Main Street

SLC, UT 84111

On the Hill

With the 2018 legislative Session quickly approaching staff at the Utah Housing Coalition are working tirelessly to monitor upcoming bills and bill requests relating to housing in Utah. Very few public bills, means more work and research for advocates to know what may reach the floor this session.

Regardless, we have our eye on a number of bill requests and details on a few bills that may play a big role in this year's fight for safe and affordable housing for all Utah Citizens:

Rep. Eliason's Homeless Services Amendments

This bill was discussed in the end of November in Revenue and Taxation Interim Committee. With no public bill, many committee suggestions and room for negotiations, nothing is set in stone for this bill. However, the basic premise is this: The bill would provide funding for Utah's soon-to-be Homeless Resource Centers by collecting funds from municipalities based on their contribution to affordable housing. Those municipalities with a higher population and lower proportion of affordable housing would owe more, while cities and counties either supporting a homeless shelter or maintaining a high proportion of affordable housing units would essentially be zeroed out. This bill aims to solve a very complex problem (funding the new homeless resource centers) while incentivizing a state-wide increase in affordable housing.

While we anticipate changes will be made before this bill ever comes to a vote, we at Utah Housing Coalition support this notion and have encouraged members of the committee to do the same.

Rep. Wilde's Moderate Income Housing Plan Amendments

This bill is not yet public and we are aware of its intention only through conversation with Representative Wilde. According to Wilde, this bill aims to address the current statute and have the conversation regarding why the statute exists if it is not being followed, change some technical issues, and seeks to start a conversation to address the "not in my backyard" issue that has been ever-so prominent since the announcement of three new homeless resource centers.

While this bill certainly goes into much more depth than this little segment, it is not yet public and has not been discussed in committee. Therefore, I will leave it to Representative Wilde to disclose the details shall he so choose. In the meantime, keep your eye out for this bill or a UHC legislative update. We look forward to seeing the complete draft of this bill and are excited to see different legislators championing housing legislation.

Other Bills on Watch

We currently do not have details on the following bills, but we do have them on watch for when they become public. This allows us to keep informed on the policies coming to the legislature, how they will affect our goals at the coalition and what we need to advocate for during the session.

- Good Landlord Revisions, Rep. Hutchings
- Homeless Identification Documents Amendments, Rep. Christensen
- Homeowners Association Modifications, Rep. Froerer
- Transient Room Tax Amendments, Rep. Noel

Member Highlight

By Michael Rinker, Photos by Adams Construction

ST. GEORGE — A St. George company is serving up a heaping helping of helping for Thanksgiving.

Adams Construction and Management enlisted the help of low-income housing residents, as well as a helping hand from attorneys, contractors and accountants, to purchase food and donate it to local charities that in turn provide it to families who can't afford a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

Staff members from the company were out early Monday morning loading up trucks and a trailer outside the Washington City Walmart to deliver the bounty to Switchpoint Community Resource Center and The Learning Center for Families in St. George, as well as to the Iron County Care and Share.

All told, Adams Construction donated about 16 1/2 tons of food, company Vice President Keith Rhoton said, enough to provide meals to 1,600 families or about 9,600 people in Washington and Iron counties. The company will also be providing the same types of meals to approximately 500 more families in Arizona.

"We hope that those who benefit from these donations will simply try to take a minute over the holidays and do something for someone else," Rhoton said. "We hope that our efforts are paid forward in some small manner and hope that this helps to make the holidays better for many people."

Each meal includes a turkey, five pounds of potatoes, canned vegetables and a box of stuffing. Company employees delivered 1,200 meals to Switchpoint, 100 meals to The Learning Center and 300 meals to the Iron County Care and Share.

Adams Construction develops and manages high-quality low-income housing in Southern Utah and Arizona, Rhoton said. Founded in 1996, the company is based in St. George and has five locations in Washington County, one each in Iron and Sevier counties and a couple in Arizona.



Company officials, wanting to give back to the community, decided about a decade ago to start an annual food drive for underprivileged families in the area. At first, they collected food donations from tenants, but much of the food was expired and not suitable for what most families in the United States consider the most important dinner of the year.

So the company asked tenants for monetary donations, offering to match them dollar for dollar. There are no administrative or any other costs – 100 percent of all money collected and the matching funds goes toward buying food, Rhoton said. A \$15 donation and \$15 match can feed two families.

The number of families that the food drive served grew steadily, but slowly, to several hundred. Then, a few years ago, Adams Construction approached companies it worked with – subcontractors, attorneys, accountants and consultants – and offered them the same arrangement. The results were impressive, growing to a high of 2,100 families fed last year.

The company didn't reach its goal of 2,500 families for this year, but that hasn't dimmed its enthusiasm for the endeavor. Enthusiasm that in the past led to staff members shaving their heads or wearing outrageous costumes when the yearly goal was met.

"We are so thankful for all of our tenants' and associated companies' donations for our food drive this year. Together, along with our company donation, we raised over \$29,000. It is a pleasure to be able to help so many people in need," said Rhoton, who also thanked the staff at Walmart for putting together such a large order and having it completely ready for pickup.



"Our employees work very hard to make this successful every year. It is the best day of the year at our company and the smiles that we see on our employees faces during this event are unforgettable."

Thank You to our Sponsors

None of this would be possible without our incredible members and sponsors. This year's conference was a huge success and we have our Utah Housing Matters Sponsors to thank for it:

Platinum

American Express Center for Community Development

Gold

Ally Bank * Comenity Capital Bank

Enterprise & Bellwether Enterprise * Goldman Sachs

JP Morgan CHASE * Morgan Stanley Bank

The Richman Group Affordable Housing Corporation

Rocky Mountain CRC

Silver

Green Dot Bank * Key Bank * Kier Construction

Merrick Bank * Utah NAHRO

Bronze

Eide Bailly * Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines

First National Bank of Layton * HAME

Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund * Restore Utah

Salt Lake City Cooperation, Housing and Neighborhood Development

TCAM * Utah Apartment Association

Utah Nonprofit Housing Corporation * Wells Fargo

Copper

AARP * Boston Capital * Comcast

FJ & Associates * Harold Woodruff, Architect/Planner

Horizon Development & Management

Housing Authority of Salt Lake City

RCAC * UBS Bank USA * US Bank

Utah Center for Neighborhood Stabilization

Utah Housing Corporation * West Valley City

Utah Housing Matters, 2017 Conference Recap

Our 21st Annual Utah Housing Matters Conference was a huge success. We would like to thank everyone that attended, our sponsors, presenters, the Conference and Award Committee, and everyone else that made this even possible.

There were nearly **260** people in attendance! We maintained a fantastic agenda with presentations from **51** presenters, **16** of whom traveled in from out our state or away from the Wasatch Front.

We had representation from **four of the five** state delegation offices:

Rob Bishop, Mike Lee, Chris Stewart, and Mia Love.

Thanks to our generous sponsors we were able to give out **30** scholarships for nonprofits to attend the event.

There will be two meetings to follow up the content of the conference:

-One to discuss the future of homeownership

-One to unite our developers and investors in working with our government partners.

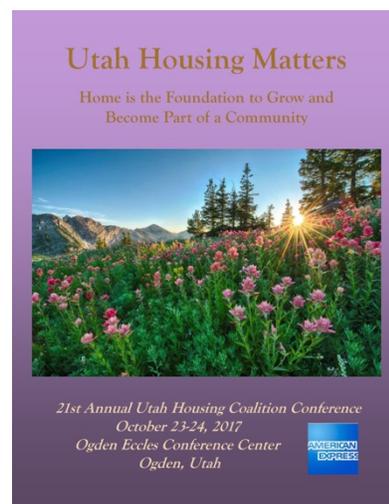
2018

The conference will take place in Ogden, again, next year and we look forward to further enhancing the Walking Tour of Housing and Community Development in Ogden!

Save the Dates:

Wednesday, November 7th 2018

Thursday, November 8th 2018



Click on the conference packet to see the information contained inside.

Or, for a full recap of the conference, head over to our website:

<http://www.utahhousing.org/conference.html>

Save the Dates, Updates

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Advocacy 101, Hosted by the Utah Housing Coalition

Wednesday, January 3rd
11:00am
Palmer Court
999 Main Street
SLC, UT 84111

Housing Day on the Hill

Monday, March 5th 2018
4:00-5:30PM
Outside of the Gold Room
Capitol Building, 2nd floor

Utah NAHRO Conference

Wednesday, April 18th 2018
through
Friday, April 20th 2018
UT Marriot. St. George UT
Time TBA

22nd Annual Utah Housing Matters Conference

Wednesday, November 7th 2018
Thursday, November 8th 2018
Ogden Eccles Conference Center
Time TBA



Updates

For more frequent updates on housing news, legislation, or what the Utah Housing Coalition is doing:

Follow us on Facebook "Utah Housing Coalition"

Tweet at us @Utah_Housing

For more information on the coalition or to become a member, check out our website:

<http://www.utahhousing.org>

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NEWS

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