

INVEST IN UTAH

November 2021



CAP Utah supports nine Community Action Agencies across the state who combat the causes and conditions of poverty. We encourage our leaders to be strategic about investments from the budget surplus and ARP funds and use them to support rural Utahns.

ECONOMIC/COMMUNITY RURAL DEVELOPMENT

- Highway and rail infrastructure projects that increase logistical capacity of rural manufacturers
- Infrastructure to develop geothermal and renewable energy sources
- Infrastructure for growing rural economies - including business expansion, recruitment, and community development
- Funds and incentives for the development of affordable and obtainable housing
- Expanding funding to fill "Last-mile broadband" gaps, connecting residents in remote communities to home education, home employment, and home healthcare opportunities.

IF TAXES ARE CUT WE ASK YOU TARGET THE MOST VULNERABLE

- **Food Sales Tax**
Impacts disadvantaged Utahns who pay a higher percentage of their income towards this tax.
- **EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit)**
Establishing State EITC would be a targeted tax cut for Utah's working poor and fulfill a strategy in Utah's 10 year plan to reduce intergeneration poverty.

RURAL HOMELESS AND HOUSING NEEDS ARE DIFFERENT

- Many lack emergency shelters
- Limited public transportation
- Often hidden sleeping in cars
- Less outreach and services

The rural homeless population is made up of more families and fewer individuals. Those experiencing rural homelessness are more likely to be working, more likely to be experiencing homelessness for the first time, and less likely to be on government assistance, than their urban counterparts.

Flexible Funding could meet the varied needs of homeless families through:

- internet capabilities
- car repairs or gas assistance
- mailing addresses for ID
- increased capacity for agencies and case managers covering large areas

The expansiveness of rural Utah can be isolating. People who are homeless often feel cut off, geographically and, for recently arrived immigrant populations, linguistically and culturally, from the services that are available in the area.