## **100 YEARS**

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OF THE UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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#### Utah Association of Counties

### 2024 Annual Report

www.uacnet.org

(801) 265-1331 5397 South Vine Street Murray, UT 84107

#### A MESSAGE TO UAC MEMBERS

Dear UAC Members, Partners, and Friends,

As we conclude our 100th year as an organization, it is with great pride and excitement that I share the highlights of our achievements and growth over the past year. In the following pages, you will find a detailed overview of our programs and initiatives. I hope this report underscores the value of your membership and illustrates how UAC continues to support and empower our members to better serve their communities.

Some of our most notable achievements this year have been our legislative successes. We have made substantial progress in several key areas, including community development, public safety, and revenue and taxation. We saw advancement in our work on the centrally assessed issue for the first time in decades. We were successful in making the Volunteer EMS Insurance Program available to more communities and enriched the benefits for those enrolled. We also were successful in securing numerous appropriations to provide additional support and resources to our members.

We continue to develop programs that bring value to our members and provide a revenue stream for our association. This year, we added Previ, a discount cell phone plan that is available to all county employees. We partnered with Tyler Technologies to develop a revenue recovery program, which can be utilized by any taxing entity. We also began providing services relative to the creation and management of community reinvestment areas.

After many years of financial planning and discussion, the buildout of the basement at the UAC office is finally complete. This space is well-designed and includes a training room, offices, storage rooms, and a kitchen area. It provides spacious seating and audio and visual technology for meetings and training sessions. The training room has seating for 64 individuals, with plenty of area for congregating. We look forward to making use of this space often and invite you to stop by the office anytime. Due to thoughtful planning, no debt was incurred on the project and our building remains unencumbered.

#### A MESSAGE TO UAC MEMBERS

This year, we also successfully integrated the efforts of the Multicounty Appraisal Trust (MCAT) into our team, bringing on an additional 19 employees, who are primarily focused on the development of PUMA - the software used by many of our county assessor's. We look forward to further advancing this effort and the development of additional tools to support county offices involved in property tax valuation and more.

I extend my deepest gratitude to the UAC Board of Directors, the UAC staff, to our partners, and all our dedicated members. Your vision, leadership, and commitment have been instrumental in our achievements. With 29 counties working together, our collective strength and diversity turn challenges into opportunities and foster meaningful collaboration.

Thank you for your outstanding service and for being an essential part of our historic journey. Here's to celebrating our past successes and building an even brighter future together!

Warm regards,

Brandy Grace

Brandy Grace Chief Executive Officer Utah Association of Counties

## UAC: WHO WE ARE



#### **ABOUT UAC**

The Utah Association of Counties (UAC) was established in 1924 by elected county officials with a profound mission to promote social welfare through the enhancement of county government. UAC tirelessly strives to maintain counties as an indispensable component of the governmental structure, recognizing the vital role they play in the well-being of their citizens. UAC's existence is purpose-driven:

**FORUM:** UAC provides a platform for member counties officers to engage in the exchange of ideas, experiences, and knowledge. We facilitate access to technical assistance, training, and education, fostering an environment of continuous improvement.

**LEGISLATION:** UAC ardently works to develop and promote state and federal legislation that advances the interest of Utah Counties, and consequently, bolsters the social welfare of their residents.

**REPRESENTATION:** UAC proudly stands as the voice of Utah counties, representing their interests before state and federal government agencies. Our advocacy ensures that county perspectives are heard and considered in the decision-making process.

**SPONSORSHIP:** UAC sponsors conventions, meetings, and seminars where county government challenges and concerns are discussed, fostering a collaborative spirit for problem-solving.

**SERVICES:** UAC extends a comprehensive range of services to our member counties, all meticulously designed to benefit the counties and their citizens. We are here to support you in your quest for better county governance.

UAC is dedicated to fostering effective county governance and ensuring that the interests of Utah counties remain at the forefront of government decision-making.

#### **UAC STAFF**



Brandy Grace Chief Executive Officer brandy@uacnet.org (435) 253-1623



Sheri Dearden Chief Operating Officer sheri@uacnet.org (435) 864-7771



Melanie Stark Administrative Assistant melanie@uacnet.org (801) 265-1331



Adam Kolowich Director of Legislative Affairs adam@uacnet.org (571) 232-9855



Laura Barlow Director of Member Engagement laura@uacnet.org (801) 201-3813



**Jill Brown** Director of MCAT Operations jill@uacnet.org (801) 633-0271



Bryan Rodgers Director of Program Development bryan@uacnet.org (801) 631-4822



Katherine Rhodes Legislative Policy Analyst (Behavioral Health) katherine@uacnet.org (385) 232-4386



Katie Miner Legislative Policy Analyst katie@uacnet.org (801) 598-8615



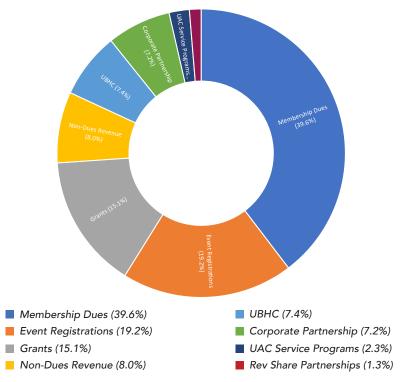
Andi Faulkner CJCC Administrative Assistant andi@uacnet.org (385) 371-3834

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

BOARD POSITION	NAME	COUNTY	OFFICE
President	Curtis Koch	Davis	Auditor
First Vice President	Nathan Curtis	Sevier	Sheriff
Second Vice President	Adam Snow	Washington	Commissioner
Secretary	Marki Rowley	Millard	Clerk
Immediate Past President	Shelley Brennan	Duchesne	Recorder
UAC CEO	Brandy Grace	UAC	CEO
Assessors	Todd Griffin	Wasatch	Assessor
Attorneys	Eric Clarke	Washington	Attorney
Auditors	Shirlene Larsen	Box Elder	Auditor
Clerks	Linda Christiansen	Sanpete	Clerk
Recorders	Gary Christensen	Washington	Recorder
Sheriffs	Mike Smith	Utah	Sheriff
Surveyors	Reid Demman	Salt Lake	Surveyor
Treasurers	Craig McAllister	Cache	Treasurer
Beaver	Tammy Pearson	Beaver	Commissioner
Box Elder	Lee Perry	Box Elder	Commissioner
Cache	Barbara Tidwell	Cache	Councilmember
Carbon	Seth Marsing	Carbon	Clerk/Auditor
Daggett	Randy Asay	Daggett	Commissioner
Davis	Bob Stevenson	Davis	Commissioner
Duchesne	Irene Hansen	Duchesne	Commissioner
Emery	Lynn Sitterud	Emery	Commissioner
Garfield	Leland Pollock	Garfield	Commissioner
Grand	Bill Winfield	Grand	Commissioner
Iron	Paul Cozzens	Iron	Commissioner
Juab	Marty Lynn Palmer	Juab	Commissioner
Kane	Robert Van Dyke	Kane	Attorney
Millard	Vicki Lyman	Millard	Commissioner
Morgan	Jared Andersen	Morgan	Commissioner
Piute	Scott Dalton	Piute	Commissioner
Rich	Sim Weston	Rich	Commissioner
Salt Lake	Aimee Winder Newton	Salt Lake	Councilmember
San Juan	Bruce Adams	San Juan	Commissioner
Sanpete	Scott Collard	Sanpete	Commissioner
Sevier	Greg Jensen	Sevier	Commissioner
Summit	Chris Robinson	Summit	Councilmember
Tooele	Jared Hamner	Tooele	Councilmember
Uintah	Brad Horrocks	Uintah	Commissioner
Utah	Amelia Powers Gardner	Utah	Commissioner
Wasatch	Kendall Crittenden	Wasatch	Councilmember
Washington	Gil Almquist	Washington	Commissioner
Wayne	Dennis Blackburn	Wayne	Commissioner
Weber	Sharon Bolos	Weber	Commissioner
Director At-Large	Margaret Olson	Summit	Attorney
Director At-Large	Travis Tucker	Duchesne	Sheriff
Director At-Large	Stacey Lyon	Sanpete	Auditor
Director At-Large	Kim Jackson	Utah	Treasurer
Director At-Large	Lannie Chapman	Salt Lake	Clerk
Corporate Partner	Brian Barton	Jones & DeMille Engineering	President/CEO

#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW: REVENUE

This graph presents an overview of UAC's Annual Revenues by type.



While membership dues remain the cornerstone of UAC's financial stability, our true strength lies in the strategic diversification of our revenue sources. By incorporating additional grants and programs into our revenue stream, we have successfully maintained reasonable membership dues while continuously improving and expanding the services we offer.

This innovative approach not only reduces the financial burden on our member counties but also enables UAC to provide additional support to counties with limited resources. Together, we are ensuring the long-term sustainability of our organization and enhancing the overall member experience.

The revenue calculations and program revenues presented in this report are based on the period from August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024.

#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW: EXPENSE

This graph provides a breakdown of UAC's expense allocation, highlighting our financial priorities.



- Staff Expenses (Operations/Legislative) (28.8%)
- Member Engagement/Events (17.0)
- Grant/Program Expense (15.8%)
- Legislative Advocacy (11.9%)
- Corporate Partner Program (11.1%)
- Association Operations (8.4%)
- UBHC (6.8%)

At UAC, we are passionately dedicated to serving you and advancing our shared mission. Your engagement is at the heart of everything we do. That's why we allocated a significant portion of our resources to membership events and engagement, ensuring you have valuable opportunities to collaborate, connect, and grow.

Our commitment to legislative advocacy is stronger that ever. With additional staffing resources, UAC is now uniquely positioned to not only share the county story but also provide compelling data to illustrate it. We are dedicated to making sure your voices are heard, and your interests are actively represented.

Through responsible financial planning, we proudly support your professional development and our collective efforts to shape positive change.

The expense calculations presented in this report are based on the period from August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024.

# MCAT OPERATIONS 120

#### DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

#### Hello,

My role is new to Utah Association of Counties, but hopefully I am not a stranger to all. Some may recall my presence as I worked for UAC from 2005 - 2018 and then moved over to County Services Support to fulfill the roles needed to support the Multicounty Appraisal Trusts (MCAT) projects.

As the Director of MCAT Operations, I'm pleased to report my team and I are settling into our new home at UAC and have hardly missed a beat with the transition that took place on July 1. We brought over a team of 19 employees and 8 contractors, working on three projects including the Statewide CAMA system (PUMA), online personal property, and telecom filing software.

I love working with the counties. I am excited about the efficiencies we are picking up with UAC and the enhanced communication that will take place. It's the counties that help make these software systems successful and user friendly. I would like to send a big shoutout to all the counties that have spent an enormous amount of time supporting development efforts. You are all amazing! Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions, I am happy to take your call or respond to an email.

Sincerely,

Jill Brown

Jill Brown Director of MCAT Operations Utah Association of Counties

#### **PROGRAM UPDATES**



#### MULTICOUNTY APPRAISAL TRUST

The Multicounty Appraisal Trust (MCAT) is a separate entity created by all 29 Utah counties through an interlocal agreement. MCAT manages cooperative appraisal and equalization tasks and oversees the statewide property tax system. Its funding comes from the Multicounty Assessing and Collecting (MA&C) property tax rate (59-2-1602).



#### PARAGON, UTAH MASS APPRAISAL

Paragon, Utah Mass Appraisal (PUMA), is the statewide CAMA system owned by MCAT and maintained by UAC. The software is live in 20 counties and will be fully utilized by 22 counties at the end of 2024.



#### **PROPERTY FILING**

In 2024, MCAT launched a beta version of online business personal property filing, with Washington County as the first successful user. The next version, featuring collection functionality, will be available in January 2025, starting with Weber County. Salt Lake County plans to adopt it in 2026, after auditing features are added.



#### **TELECOM FILING SOFTWARE**

In its second year, MCAT's telecom filing software manages 3,510 company, county, and tax areas with over 256,000 asset lines. Filings rose from 60 to 70 accounts, with the State Property Tax Division reporting and billing over \$3 billion in taxable assets collected by the counties.



#### DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

#### Hello!

What a year this 100 year Anniversary of Utah Association of Counties (UAC) has been! As the Director of Member Engagement, I am constantly looking forward to working with all members of UAC. Member engagement encompasses all aspects of supporting county officials. As an association, one of our goals is to present our membership with robust training opportunities to strengthen your knowledge and boost your public service. With a brand-new training space in the basement of our building, we've been able to start hosting meetings in-house. We will be hosting our Newly Elected Official Training program there next year.

Another key aspect of member engagement is our UAC conferences, which bring opportunities for members to gather as affiliate groups, share ideas, and build relationships with all 29 counties in Utah. 2024 was a year of growth for our conferences, with each meeting growing in numbers and expanding our influence.

I look forward to continuing to cultivate strong relationships with all our members and finding ways to support your personal and professional growth. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time with any questions! I'm happy to help you with whatever you need.

Best!

Laura Barlow

Laura Barlow Director of Member Engagement Utah Association of Counties

#### 2024 COUNTY DAY ON THE HILL

On Jan. 24, 2024, UAC celebrated our 100-year Anniversary (to the day!) with a special celebration at the Utah State Capitol. UAC members heard from our federal delegation, Governor Cox, and legislative leadership. Cabinet members, Treasurer Oaks, Auditor Dougall, and staff from the attorney general and legislative offices hosted Advocacy Boot Camps for our members to learn more about how Capitol Hill works.

With dozens of UAC members sitting on the House and Senate floors, the legislature passed SCR2, Concurrent Resolution Honoring the 100th Anniversary of the Utah Association of Counties (E. Vickers) with unanimous votes. Thank you to our partners on the hill for helping us celebrate 100 years of county advocacy!

#### **164 UAC Member Attendees**





#### 2024 BUILDING UTAH

Building Utah is an educational conference and trade show hosted by the Utah Association of Counties involving municipal, county, and state roads departments, as well as public works directors, engineers, mayors, councils, commissioners, GIS, administrators, state legislators, and state department heads. Large machinery, cutting-edge technology, and road construction equipment are also displayed for those in attendance.

In addition to roads, attendees focus on statewide multimodal transit, infrastructure, the Utah Inland Port Authority, broadband technologies, electric and autonomous vehicles, transportation bonding, legislative policy, and more. The main focus of this conference is bringing together those who are performing the building with those who are implementing the planning and creating correlating policy.

#### 166 Attendees, 19 Exhibitors



#### 2024 LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

The Legislative Management Conference is an opportunity to gather our affiliate groups and discuss updates from the previous legislative session. We discussed how lawmakers tackled big issues including energy, water, affordable housing, homelessness, behavioral health, and more during the 2024 Legislative Session.

UAC members had a voice in countless decisions due to excellent participation in Policy Steering Committees and Legislative Committee. We are grateful to legislative partners who championed UAC causes, listened to members, and worked so tirelessly on behalf of the state. Starting in 2025, we will use this Spring Conference to organize and elect our leadership for the association.

#### 387 Attendees, 30 Exhibitors



#### **2024 UAC ANNUAL CONVENTION**

The Annual Convention in the fall is the largest meeting of county elected and appointed officials in the state of Utah. Participants from all counties come together to shape UAC's policy agenda, share proven practices and strengthen knowledge networks to help improve residents' lives and the efficiency of county government. This year, we are holding this conference at the Utah Valley Convention Center in Provo.

#### 286 Attendees, 50 Exhibitors (and counting!)





#### **2024 JUSTICE SUMMIT**

The Justice Summit is an annual event held to facilitate discussions on critical justice issues. These stakeholders have backgrounds in behavioral health, law enforcement, lived experience, and the county legislative body. The summit began with a political panel Q&A session with Senator Kirk Cullimore and Representative Karianne Lisonbee. Both legislators are members of their respective Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Committees, and they provided an in-depth look at the priorities for their committees.

The 2024 Justice Summit had a particular focus on Pretrial Services as that is a priority for the Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice this year. Additional topics covered at the summit included: Re-Entry/Reintegration, Specialty Courts, The Bridge Program, Children's Resources within the System, the Commission on Victims Services, and Sheriff Curtis's Law Enforcement Transportation Matrix.

#### **63 Attendees**



#### 2024 NACO HIGH PERFORMANCE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy is an innovative, completely online 12-week program created to equip frontline county government professionals with practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and communities.

With a robust curriculum developed by the Professional Development Academy in partnership with Fortune 1000 executives, public service leaders, and world-renowned academics and thought leaders, HPLA was designed specifically for the unique challenges and opportunities of serving in county government.

Graduates	Organization
Silvia Stubbs	Commissioner, San Juan County
Aaron Davidson	County Clerk, Utah County
Calvin Bergmann	Internal Audit Manager, Utah County
Curtis Jones	Bureau Director, Utah County
Heather Condley	Nurse Practitioner, Utah County
Jason Garrett	Environmental Health Director, Utah County
Kristen Swensen	Elections Director, Utah County
Larry Kettenring	Sr. HRBP & Leadership Development, Utah County



"This is a transformational leadership program that has proven to be the most scalable, cost effective and efficient way to make your leaders better."

General Colin Powell

#### UTAH RURAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Innovation and leadership are at the core of Utah's progress, and the Utah Rural Leadership Academy (URLA) exemplifies this spirit. Conceived by UAC CEO Brandy Grace and enthusiastically championed by Utah's Governor Spencer J. Cox, URLA is a transformative year-long experience that elevates the leadership journey and contributes to the prosperity of Utah's rural communities.

URLA orchestrates powerful exercises and active learning opportunities designed to support emerging and established leaders in Utah's rural communities. This program is made possible through the collaborative efforts of UAC, Southern Utah University Leadership Institute, the Utah Governor's Office, and the Utah State Legislature.

Entering its third year, each URLA cohort is deliberately limited to 40 seats, with a designated seat for at least one representative from each of Utah's 29 counties, ensuring that every corner of our state has a voice at the table.

URLA is not just a program; it's a movement. It's about empowering Utah's rural leaders, nurturing their potential, and forging a united front of capable and visionary leaders across our great state!



"We become better leaders when we embrace opportunities and continue to learn together."

**Brandy Grace** 

#### UTAH RURAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY 2024 GRADUATES

Graduates	Organization
Andrea Allen	Recorder, Utah County
Laura Barlow	Utah Association of Counties
Brent Boswell	Economic Development Director, Juab
Brent Boswell	County
Linda Christiansen	Clerk, Sanpete County
Kerry Cook	Commissioner, Wayne County
Barbara Crowther	Deputy Clerk/Auditor, Sevier County
Jenna Draper	Inland Port
Eric Duthie	City Manager, City of Hilldale
Kaden Figgins	Planning & Economic Development
	Director, Garfield County
Sandi Goodlander	Councilmember, Cache County
Jared Hamner	Council Chairman, Tooele County
Matt Hargreaves	Utah Farm Bureau Federation
Tricia Harris	Rural Utah Chamber Coalition
Kimberly Harrison	Treasurer, Morgan County
Jamie Harvey	Commissioner, San Juan County
Lori Haslem	Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity
Traci Herrera	Assessor, Duchesne County
Eric Houston	Sheriff, Garfield County
Greg Jensen	Commissioner, Sevier County
Larry Jensen	Commissioner, Carbon County
Camille Johnson	Utah Office of Tourism
Lorene Kamalu	Commissioner, Davis County
Patty Kubeja	Commissioner, Kane County
Shirlene Larsen	Auditor, Box Elder County
John Laursen	Commissioner, Uintah County
Luke Little	Auditor, Iron County
Sonja Norton	Commissioner, Uintah County
Camille Otto	SE Utah Association of Local Governments
Darren Prince	Economic Development Director,
	Washington County
Marki Rowley	Clerk, Millard County
Josie Stilson	Treasurer/Recorder, Emery County
Dea Theadore	Councilmember, Salt Lake County
Bill Winfield	Commissioner, Grand County
Brandon Yardley	Commissioner, Beaver County

#### STATE OF UTAH BOARD AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS

UAC members serve on various State Boards and Commissions established by the Utah State Legislature or convened by the Governor. These appointments represent the UAC organization and its members across a wide range of policy areas. Board members regularly convene to offer advice and provide essential input on policy decisions in various subject matters. Serving on a board or commission offers an opportunity to engage with the processes influencing policy decisions.

Many board positions have specific qualifications, and some are reserved for particular demographic groups. Boards rely on the knowledge, experience, and expertise of their members to function effectively. When selecting board appointments, UAC takes numerous factors into account. Additionally, certain UAC member's board appointments are made by the Governor or other government officials or bodies.

Following this page is a partial list of UAC members appointed to various Utah Boards and Commissions. UAC expresses gratitude to these individuals for their additional commitment to public service.

#### STATE OF UTAH BOARD AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS

Board of Tourisr	n Development
Victor Iverson	Washington County
VICTOR IVEISON	washington County
Commission on Housin	g Affordability (CH <u>A)</u>
Dina Blaes	Salt Lake County
Rachelle Custer	Tooele County
Communications	
Craig Dearden	Weber County
Scott Jenkins	Weber County
Constitutional D	afanaa Caunail
Bob Stevenson	Davis County
Leland Pollock	Garfield County
Bruce Adams	San Juan County
Tammy Pearson	Beaver County
Stan Summers	Box Elder County
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County Recorder	Standards Board
Shelley Brennan	Duchesne County
Rashelle Hobbs	Salt Lake County
Chad Montgomery	Box Elder County
County Recorder	
(Civil At Ben Stanley	Utah County
Ben Stanley	Utan County
County Recorder Stand	ards Board (Survevor)
Ryan Allred	Duchesne County
Utah Homeles	sness Council
Arlyn Bradshaw	Salt Lake County
Criminal Justice Data M (CJE	
Kelly Sparks	Davis County
Kelly Sparks	Davis County
Cybersecurity	Commission
Matt Ceniceros	Grand County
Utah Cybe	
Don Wood	Wasatch County
EMS Health Insurance	
Lee Perry	Box Elder County
Wade Hollingshead	Beaver County
Wade Heaton	Kane County
Indigent Defen	se Commission
Lorene Kamalu	Davis County
Casey Hopes	Carbon County
casey nopes	Carbon County
Indigent Defens	e Funds Board
Scott Wardle	Tooele County
Kendall Thomas	Tooele County

Davis County

Lorene Kamalu

Joint Highway Comm	ittee At Large
Scott Baird	Salt Lake County
Dustin Grabau	Wasatch County
Baban Brabaa	Trabateli obality
Joint Highway Comm	ittee Region 1
Bill Cox	Rich County
Bob Stevenson	Davis County
Joint Highway Comm	
Shayne Scott	Summit County
Andy Welch	Tooele County
Joint Highway Comm	ittee Region 3
Amelia Powers Gardner	Utah County
Greg Miles	Duchesne County
Joint Highway Committee	e Region 4 Central
Wade Heaton	Kane County
David Dodds	Garfield County
Joint Highway Committee Bruce Adams	Region 4 Southeast San Juan County
Tony Martines	Carbon County
Tony Martines	Carbon County
Joint Highway Committee	Region 4 Southwest
Gil Almquist	Washington County
Paul Cozzens	Iron County
Judicial Council's Task Forc	
Jerry Taylor	Garfield County
Eric Clarke	Washington County
Kem C. Gardner Policy Instit	ute Advisory Board
Kem C. Gardner Policy Instit Brandy Grace	ute Advisory Board UAC
Kem C. Gardner Policy Instit	ute Advisory Board UAC
Kem C. Gardner Policy Instit Brandy Grace Land Conservation	ute Advisory Board UAC Fund Board
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Kem C. Gardner Policy Instit     Brandy Grace     Land Conservation     Randy Elliott     Tammy Pearson     Land Use and Eminent Don     Mike Kendall     Local Public Safety and Fi     Spouse Trust     Brandy Grace     Outdoor Adventure     Brandy Grace	ute Advisory Board UAC Fund Board Davis County Beaver County main Advisory Board Davis County refighter Surviving Fund UAC Commission UAC
Kem C. Gardner Policy Instit Brandy Grace Land Conservation Randy Elliott Tammy Pearson Land Use and Eminent Don Mike Kendall Local Public Safety and Fi Spouse Trust Brandy Grace Outdoor Adventure	ute Advisory Board UAC Fund Board Davis County Beaver County nain Advisory Board Davis County refighter Surviving Fund UAC Commission
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Kem C. Gardner Policy Instit   Brandy Grace   Land Conservation   Randy Elliott   Tammy Pearson   Land Use and Eminent Don   Mike Kendall   Local Public Safety and Fi   Spouse Trust   Brandy Grace   Outdoor Adventure   Brandy Grace   Outdoor Adventure   Jerry Taylor   Outdoor Recreation Grant   Tammy Pearson	ute Advisory Board UAC Fund Board Davis County Beaver County Beaver County nain Advisory Board Davis County refighter Surviving Fund UAC Commission UAC Garfield County Advisory Committee Beaver County
Kem C. Gardner Policy Instit   Brandy Grace   Land Conservation   Randy Elliott   Tammy Pearson   Land Use and Eminent Don   Mike Kendall   Local Public Safety and Fi   Spouse Trust   Brandy Grace   Dutdoor Adventure   Brandy Grace   Jerry Taylor   Outdoor Recreation Grant A   Tammy Pearson	ute Advisory Board UAC Fund Board Davis County Beaver County hain Advisory Board Davis County refighter Surviving Fund UAC Commission UAC Garfield County Advisory Committee Beaver County tiative Region 1
Kem C. Gardner Policy Instit   Brandy Grace   Land Conservation   Randy Elliott   Tammy Pearson   Land Use and Eminent Don   Mike Kendall   Local Public Safety and Fi   Spouse Trust   Brandy Grace   Outdoor Adventure   Brandy Grace   Outdoor Recreation Grant   Tammy Pearson	ute Advisory Board UAC Fund Board Davis County Beaver County Beaver County nain Advisory Board Davis County refighter Surviving Fund UAC Commission UAC Garfield County Advisory Committee Beaver County

#### STATE OF UTAH BOARD AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS

Outdoor Recreation	Initiative Region 2
Bob Stevenson	Davis County
Brandon Gordon	Utah County
Outdoor Recreation	
Kerry Cook	Wayne County
Sam Steed	Piute County
Outdoor Recreation	Initiative Region 4
Victor Iverson	Washington County
Patty Kubeja	Kane County
Outdoor Recreation	
Bill Winfield	Emery County
BIII WINTIEID	Grand County
Private Activity Bor	nd Review Board
Curtis Koch	Davis County
Nicole Rosenberg	Iron County
Amelia Powers Gardner	Utah County
	· · ·
Quality Growth	
Jim Bradley	Salt Lake County
Retirement Systems I	Membership Board
Sheri Dearden	UAC
SITLA Board of Trustee	
Greg Miles	hair) Duchesne County
Greg Miles	Ducheshe county
State Procuremer	nt Policy Board
Alison McCoy	Tooele County
Substance Use and Mer	
Coun	cil
Coun	cil Rich County
Coun Bill Cox	cil Rich County
Coun Bill Cox Task Force on F Aimee Winder-Newton	cil Rich County ood Security Salt Lake County
Coun Bill Cox Task Force on F Aimee Winder-Newton Unified Economic Oppo	cil Rich County ood Security Salt Lake County ortunity Commission
Coun Bill Cox Task Force on F Aimee Winder-Newton	cil Rich County ood Security Salt Lake County
Coun Bill Cox Task Force on F Aimee Winder-Newton Unified Economic Oppo	cil Rich County ood Security Salt Lake County ortunity Commission Box Elder County
Coun Bill Cox Task Force on F Aimee Winder-Newton Unified Economic Oppo Lee Perry Wildlife Board	cil Rich County ood Security Salt Lake County ortunity Commission Box Elder County
Coun Bill Cox Task Force on F Aimee Winder-Newton Unified Economic Oppo Lee Perry Wildlife Board Wade Heaton	cil Rich County ood Security Salt Lake County ortunity Commission Box Elder County Nominating Kane County
Coun Bill Cox Task Force on F Aimee Winder-Newton Unified Economic Oppo Lee Perry Wildlife Board Wade Heaton Wildlife Utah Regionz	cil Rich County ood Security Salt Lake County ortunity Commission Box Elder County Nominating Kane County Advisory Council
Coun Bill Cox Task Force on F Aimee Winder-Newton Unified Economic Oppo Lee Perry Wildlife Board Wade Heaton Wildlife Utah Regiona Brad Horrocks	cil Rich County ood Security Salt Lake County ortunity Commission Box Elder County Nominating Kane County Advisory Council Uintah County
Coun Bill Cox Task Force on F Aimee Winder-Newton Unified Economic Oppo Lee Perry Wildlife Board Wade Heaton	cil Rich County ood Security Salt Lake County ortunity Commission Box Elder County Nominating Kane County Advisory Council

## **MEMBER ENGAGEMENT**

## LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY



#### DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Utah Association of Counties Members,

On behalf of UAC, I am pleased to present the highlights of the 2024 General Legislative Session. This year, we tackled critical issues such as energy, water, affordable housing, homelessness, and behavioral health. UAC members' active participation in Policy Steering Committees and the Legislative Committee was key to driving public policy decisions that benefit county constituents across Utah.

We pursued ambitious priority policies, sparking important conversations and achieving tangible results. Notable legislative outcomes include the passage of bills which focus on innovative, market-driven solutions for affordable housing and economic development, especially in rural areas. Additionally, UAC secured vital adjustments to the Volunteer Emergency Medical Service Personnel Insurance program, enhancing both the lives of its enrollees and UAC's recruitment and retention efforts.

We are deeply grateful to our legislative partners for championing our causes and working tirelessly on behalf of our counties. Their dedication and collaboration have been pivotal to this session's success. Together, we continue to positively impact the lives of our residents.

We look forward to working with the newly appointed chairs and vice chairs of the Policy Steering Committees for the remainder of 2024 and the 2025 general legislative session. Their leadership and fresh perspectives will bring new energy and ideas to our ongoing efforts.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment and support.

Sincerely,

Adam Kolowich

Adam Kolowich Director of Legislative Affairs Utah Association of Counties

# 2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION



# POLICY STEERING COMMITTEES

Legislative advocacy is an essential service provided for the benefit of our membership. Policy positions and priorities are established under the direction of our elected county members. We encourage all members to participate in Policy Steering Committees throughout the year to help shape these discussions.



#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2024 Session: Amelia Powers Gardner and Jon Lee 2025 Session: Lee Perry and Bill Winfield

The Community Development Policv Steering Committee made significant contributions during the 2024 General Legislative Session, particularly in addressing affordable housing and economic development. Key legislative successes include SB 168 and SB 268, which introduce market-driven strategies to increase affordable housing options. Additionally, HB 572 established the Utah Homes Investment Program, offering lowinterest loans to homebuilders focused on affordability.



#### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE & PUBLIC SAFETY**

2024 Session: Kelly Sparks and Casey Hopes 2025 Session: Travis Tucker and Rob Van Dyke

During the 2024 General Legislative Session, the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Policy Steering Committee focused on key reforms to enhance public safety and improve the criminal justice system. Noteworthy achievements include the passage of HB 217, which strengthens the insurance program for EMS volunteers, boosting both protection and recruitment efforts. The committee also supported initiatives to expand mental health resources within the justice system, recognizing their importance in reducing recidivism and aiding rehabilitation.

# POLICY STEERING COMMITTEES



#### **GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

2024 Session: Jack Lytle and Jerry Houghton 2025 Session: Brian McKenzie and Lannie Chapman During the 2024 session, counties worked to improve new state requirements surrounding data privacy operations, state grants, and OPMA. Counties are experts in county operations, and we appreciate legislative partners listening to those who are elected to serve their constituents well!



#### **SOCIAL & HUMAN SERVICES**

2024 Session: Arlyn Bradshaw and Barbara Tidwell 2025 Session: Laurie Stringham and Bill Cox

Homelessness was a major issue during the 2024 session, with counties working to improve governance structures and adjust existing requirements to serve the needs of individual counties more effectively. New language in statute will require data collection that will drive work toward the goal of "functional zero" levels of homelessness in each of fifteen demographic subcategories (veterans, youth, etc).



#### **REVENUE & TAXATION**

2024 Session: John Ulibarri and Chris Harding 2025 Session: Alison McCoy and Nicole Rosenberg

Prior to the 2024 session, legislative leaders listened to county concerns regarding centrally assessed property and made huge strides in addressing key challenges faced by large and small counties alike. Work began on other issues such as property

taxes and recreation management. Counties have a seat at the table in these important conversations thanks to the work of our members.



# **LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY**



# CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCILS

In 2022, the introduction of Senate Bill 179 - Criminal Justice Amendments - brought forth the establishment of Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils (CJCC) in accordance with Utah Code 17-55. The driving force behind this legislation was the findings from the 2021 Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) Listening Tour. Feedback from the tour highlighted that each county has unique justice reform needs, and local leaders are best suited to address them. UAC wholeheartedly embraced this feedback and eagerly assumed the role of assisting counties in the creation of their own CJCCs.

UAC has been dedicated to aiding counties in launching their councils, organizing meetings, developing strategic plans, assessing community resources, and establishing data collection and sharing mechanisms for future initiatives. UAC's support extends to administrative tasks, such as meeting minutes and plan drafting, as well as facilitating connections between council members and available resources on Capitol Hill. UAC has also hosted quarterly meetings where council chairpersons are able to collaborate and address questions and concerns.

UAC remains committed to providing ongoing support for the Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils, eagerly anticipating the individualized justice reform efforts that each county deems essential for its community.



PROGRAM IMPACT

CJCC's formed

#### **GRANT REVENUE**

\$240,000

CCJJ grant awarded to UAC for support services to counties through 06/30/2025

# UTAH BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE COMMITTEE

The Utah Behavioral Healthcare Committee (UBHC) is made up of representatives of all of the Local Mental Health and Substance Use Authorities (LMHAs) throughout the state. Because counties are mandated to provide mental health and substance use prevention and treatment services to their residents, UBHC gives counties and their providers an opportunity to gather to work together to solve common problems and develop funding requests and state policy.

UBHC has recently had many successes. We were able to secure \$4 million of ongoing funding from the state, taking some of the pressure off of the counties. The Medicaid justice waiver was approved, allowing incarcerated individuals to receive federally-funded healthcare for 90 days before their release date. The first rural receiving center, run by Four Corners Community Behavioral Health, opened its doors to the public in July, and provides a model for other rural receiving centers to follow.

UBHC is working on being included in base budget increases that are currently made to physical health funding as federal funding decreases. It is also working on obtaining funding for two additional receiving centers (to be located in the Utah Basin and Central Utah). UBHC is also working together on multiple state audits on the behavioral health system and is excited to show how robust the public behavioral healthcare system is and how well the counties work together, while also showing that additional state funding is needed.

**UBHC BUDGET** 

\$209,500

funded through dues paid by each local mental health authority



# **SB174 COMPLIANCE**

Senate Bill 174 (2023 General Session) created a new framework for the review and approval of subdivisions. Consequently, counties are mandated to revise their local ordinances to align with the newly enacted state code, specifically UCA 17-27a-604.1, 604.2 and 604.9.

To support counties efforts on this crucial initiative, UAC has secured a grant intended to help UAC coordinate with each county legislative body, elected county attorney, planning department, and other stakeholders to provide legal and planning support as counties update their subdivision ordinances and codes.

UAC has engaged the services of KCJR Legal to provide valuable assistance throughout this process. This collaboration encompasses a range of services, including:

- 1. Conducting quarterly training sessions on the new subdivision review and approval process.
- 2. Providing sample ordinances and training materials that will be accessible to all counties.
- 3. Facilitating coordination opportunities with experts to ensure the prompt adoption of new ordinances.

As of July 31, 2024, 14 counties have completed updating their ordinances in compliance with SB174. UAC continues to provide resources to the remaining counties as they work through this process.

UAC is committed to supporting local control in land use planning and helping counties maintain their autonomy as they navigate the altered landscape introduced by SB174.



### **GRANT REVENUE**

\$400,000

DWS grant awarded to UAC for support services to counties through 1/31/25

# VOLUNTEER EMS INSURANCE PROGRAM

In a landscape where Emergency Medical Services (EMS) agencies across the state grapple with the recruitment and retention of volunteers, the Volunteer EMS Insurance Program has emerged as a beacon of support. This program has been strategically designed to assist counties and agencies in incentivizing the invaluable volunteer efforts upon which these agencies heavily rely. UAC is dedicated to the success of this program; we were even awarded a national award for our efforts.

EMS volunteers serving in rural areas may be eligible for comprehensive health insurance coverage, not only for themselves but also for their family members. Volunteers must meet the eligibility requirements as defined in UCA 26B-4-136. A \$14 million legislative grant awarded by the Department of Health and Human Services provides for coverage with Public Employees Health Plan at no cost to the volunteer and a very reasonable cost for additional family members. Additional benefits were added this year, including dental coverage, life insurance, and long-term disability.

The Volunteer EMS Program is more than just insurance; it's a testament of our commitment to the well-being of those who tirelessly serve our communities in times of need.



PROGRAM IMPACT

120 EMT volunteers

19 counties with participants

### **ANNUAL REVENUE**

\$589,955

Total Amount Covered for EMT Volunteer Insurance

\$21,000 Administration

\$15,050 Brokerage Commission

# PROGRAMS & SERVICES



# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

### Hello,

I am the Director of Program Development at the Utah Association of Counties. Did you know about the many member benefits UAC provides? It is the goal of our association to provide real value to our members through a variety of different programs. We recognize the importance of these programs and continually strive to expand the amount of membership benefits available to you each year. That's what we're here for.

Associations are designed to benefit their members. Our association not only provides benefits but enhances the experience for the general public. Getting involved in UAC oftentimes leads to a better overall understanding of county government which in turn, results in improved county government at the local level. Having valuable programs in place makes it easier for everyone, especially when they are programs that are saving counties money, providing opportunities, generating benefits educational and revenue, and reinvesting in your local communities. As Director, I intend to see our current programs grow and expect to incorporate more as other opportunities arise. Please let me know if you have ideas about programs we are currently missing out on or if you think there are more programs that would be beneficial to our organization. I am always here to help.

Thanks,

Bryan Rodgers

Bryan Rodgers Director of Program Development Utah Association of Counties

# **CRA SERVICES**

The UAC Community Reinvestment Agency (CRA) Services program is designed to assist and empower counties in creating and managing successful CRA projects.

**CREATION SERVICES:** Traditionally UAC has been a trusted partner in the creation phase of CRA projects. As a third-party consulting service provider, we work closely with counties and their CRA/RDA agencies. Our creation services are all about providing expert consulting and support during the critical initial development phase of your projects.

**MANAGEMENT SERVICES:** In 2023, UAC added Management Services for CRA projects. These services go beyond creation and focus on comprehensive reporting and compliance requirements once your project is up and running, and that all-important increment has been triggered. Our CRA services can be tailored to fit the specific requirements of each county. Our pricing flexibility is designed to ensure that our services align with your

budget and goals. The fee for our Management Services can be seamlessly integrated into your project area budget, making it easy to manage and plan for the success of your CRA projects.





created

ANNUAL REVENUE

\$12,500

Creation Services (through developer Cost Reimbursement Agreements)

\$25,500 Management Service Contracts

# **CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS**

UAC recognizes the benefits of public and private sector collaboration. With our Corporate Partnership Program, we encourage the private sector to get involved with county governments by becoming Corporate Partners of UAC and sponsoring events such as our Annual Convention, Building Utah Conference, NACo (National Association of Counties), and more.

With these partnerships, UAC cultivates and strengthens relationships between county governments and the private sector. Partnerships provide unique marketing opportunities for business partners and keeps county training and education costs down. Our partners represent a wide variety of industries, including municipal finance, construction, energy, technology, healthcare, consulting, and others.

This program has grown exponentially over the past few years thanks to you. Corporate Partners are continually looking for ways to connect with county leaders in government. Utilizing their organizations for products and services benefits our association as a whole. When choosing an organization for county products and services, we hope

you consider using one of our UAC corporate partners! This helps us continue growing so we can get you the best deals on available products and services for your counties. Thank you for your continued support of our corporate partners!



**PROGRAM IMPACT** 

46

current corporate partners

#### **ANNUAL REVENUE**

\$210,000

5 Platinum Partners 11 Gold Partners 21 Silver Partners 9 Affinity Partners



# CLEARGOV

ClearGov is the leading provider of Budget Cycle Management software, committed to helping counties enhance every aspect of the budgeting journey. ClearGov's budget cycle management software includes everything your county needs to collect, create, and communicate your budget from start to finish.

ClearGov's Budget Cycle Management suite includes:

- **Capital Budgeting:** Automate the collection, organization, and optimization of capital utilization
- **Personnel Budgeting:** Manage compensation and benefits, conduct scenario planning and what-if analysis
- **Operational Budgeting:** Build a forecast and annual budget more efficiently and collaboratively
- **Digital Budget Book:** Produce an interactive, GFOA award-winning budget book in a fraction of the time
- **Transparency:** Tell your county's financial story to drive community support and engagement



#### **PROGRAM IMPACT**

4

counties utilizing the Clear Gov program

#### **ANNUAL REVENUE**

\$2,317

only one quarter of revenue sharing

# **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

Attracting and retaining top talent is critical for our member counties, with employee benefits being a pivotal factor for consideration among employees. Providing excellent benefits has grown increasingly costly and complex.

Benefits administration is more than just choosing a healthcare plan; it entails working alongside a team that comprehends the unique dynamics of your county and your employees. This is precisely where the UAC and GBS Benefits, Inc. partnership comes into play. Through the consolidation of our collective purchasing power, we are able to present a diverse and cost-effective benefits program. This empowers our members to efficiently manage their benefits, thereby ensuring the satisfaction and overall well-being of their workforce.

#### **PRODUCTS & BENEFITS OFFERED**

Medical Insurance Dental Insurance Vision Insurance Life Insurance AD&D Insurance Disability Insurance Worksite Voluntary Benefits Cafeteria Plans HRA & HSA 401(k)

#### WHY USE THE UAC/GBS BENEFITS PROGRAM?

#### LOWER COSTS

Gain access to a wide variety of benefits at reduced prices

**IMPROVED EFFICIENCY** Streamline your benefits management process

**COLLABORATIVE INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS** Offer competitive benefits to your employees

#### **DEDICATED SUPPORT**

Ensuring that you and your employees have a comprehensive experience



# PREVI PARTNERSHIP

UAC's highly anticipated collaboration with Previ Inc. brings the opportunity for substantial savings on cell phone plans to ALL County Employees.

Previ Inc. is at the forefront of fintech innovation, redefining how people manage their money. We are thrilled to bring their groundbreaking approach to payments and savings to ALL county employees.

## **CURRENT PREVI CELLPHONE PLANS**

T-Mobile: \$20/month per line AT&T: \$25/month per line Verizon: COMING SOON!

Unlimited everything! Enjoy unlimited data, voice, text, and hotspot usage. And the best part? You get to keep your current phone and number, all without being tied to a contract. Plus, with Previ, your first month

is free! Plans for watches and tablets will receive a waived activation fee. Add up to 10 lines on one account. Previ members save \$1,251 per year on average with an unlimited mobile plan.



### **PROGRAM IMPACT**

104

county employees utilizing the Previ phone plan

# \$124,811

in savings for employees using Previ Phone Plans

# ANNUAL REVENUE

The Revenue Share from this new program is currently

\$622

# PUBLIC SURPLUS & TAX SALE

At UAC, we are committed to providing exceptional value to our county members, and our partnership with the Public Surplus Group is a testament to this dedication.

Public Surplus has risen to prominence as one of the largest Government Auction services in the United States. Their extensive experience and innovative portal have redefined and simplified the tax sale process. Public Surplus has consistently demonstrated its value to over 6,000 government entities annually, attesting to their status as a trusted and reliable partner in the realm of government auctions.

If your county is currently using Public Surplus, there is no additional cost to the county to register your entity for revenue-sharing with UAC. We would ask that you register (or re-register) using the orange QR code below.





PROGRAM IMPACT



counties participating in Public Surplus

# ANNUAL REVENUE

\$38,253

# UNEMPLOYMENT COST MANAGEMENT

In the world of county governance, unexpected challenges like unemployment claims can divert precious time and resources away from crucial county operations. UAC understands the importance of allowing our county members to focus on what they do best: governing and serving their communities.

UAC's collaboration with Employer Advocates LLC is the ultimate partnership in reducing your county's unemployment tax burdens. With a comprehensive approach to unemployment cost control, we empower your staff with expertise through seminars and workshops, represent your county throughout the claims process, audit state records for errors, and simplify your staff workload.

Over the past three years, our participating counties have enjoyed remarkable success, with win rates on contested claims at an impressive 93.48%. With UAC's Unemployment Cost Management program, you're not just managing unemployment costs, you're taking control of your county's financial future. However, it's more than just financial savings; it's about peace of mind and less frustration for our member counties.



PROGRAM IMPACT

counties and one special service district participating ANNUAL REVENUE

\$14,500

# UTAH REVENUE RECOVERY

The Utah Revenue Recovery Program is a new program created in partnership with Tyler Technologies and administered by UAC as a benefit to counties at no additional cost. The program allows local government agencies to submit delinquent debts for offset against pending state personal income tax refunds. Allowable debts include any amount due as a result of judgment, citation, tax, or administrative order, or unpaid materials and services that are at least 90 days outstanding.

## **BENEFITS TO COUNTY**

- Monies owed are obtained easily and efficiently
- Previously uncollectable debt is collected
- Records are cleaned up

# **BENEFITS TO COUNTY CITIZENS**

- Collection penalties are lowered
- Negative impacts on credit rating are avoided
- Debts are satisfied when funds are available

Look for more information on the upcoming launch of this new program at *www.utahrevenuerecovery.org*. Contact UAC staff to sign-up.



