



the **ANTI-HUNGER
ADVOCATE**

Brought to you by the Anti-Hunger Action Committee

June 2006

SENATE VOTES TO IGNORE EMERGENCY DENTAL NEEDS: CONTACT VALENTINE AND CURTIS BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!

On Wednesday, May 25, the Utah Legislature met for one day to address important issues that could not wait for the next legislative session to begin in January. One issue that was supposed to be addressed was whether or not the Department of Health should use money already in its budget to provide emergency dental care to seniors and people with disabilities. Unfortunately, the Senate and the House Rules Committee decided to not look at this important issue. Fortunately, there is still time to save these benefits. The Governor has the money and the ability to restore emergency dental benefits to Medicaid but that he is worried there will be a backlash from legislators if he restores those services without legislative approval. In just two minutes you help ask our legislative leaders to publicly support restoration of these critical services services. Below you will find contact information for the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. Either one of these politicians could give the Governor all the support he needs. Together, they can help ensure that none of the over 40,000 Utahns affected by this issue die this year from complications that arise from untreated tooth infections.

Senate President John Valentine:

E-mail: jvalentine@utahsenate.org

Work: (801) 373-6345

Home: (801) 224-1693

House Speaker Greg Curtis

E-mail: gcurtis@utah.gov

Home: 801-943-3091

Work: 801-538-1930

REPRESENTATIVES WHO VOTED TO NOT FUND EMERGENCY DENTAL BENEFITS

Rebecca D. Lockhart	(801)-377-8428
Ann W. Hardy	(801)-294-3347
Rep. J. Stuart Adams	(801)-544-7676
Rep. Stephen D. Clark	(801)-375-1260
Rep. John Dougall	(801)-362-7155
Rep. James A. Dunnigan	(801)-968-8594
Rep. Gregory H. Hughes	(801)-572-5305
Rep. Todd E. Kiser	(801)-579-0179
Rep. David Ure	(435)-783-4650

SENATORS WHO VOTED TO NOT FUND EMERGENCY DENTAL BENEFITS

Michael G. Waddoups	(801)-967-0225
Carlene M. Walker	(801) 733-4599
L. Alma "Al" Mansell	(801) 942-6019
Chris Buttars	(801) 561-0535
Howard A. Stephenson	(801) 576-1022
Mark B. Madsen	(801) 864-0766
John L. Valentine	(801) 224-1693
Parley Hellewell	(801) 226-3034
Curtis S. Bramble	(801) 226-3663
Peter C. Knudson	(435) 723-2035
Dave L. Thomas	(801) 479-7479
Allen M. Christensen	(801) 782-5600
Scott K. Jenkins	(801) 731-5120
Sheldon Killpack	(801) 773-5486
Gregory "S" Bell	(801) 971-2001
Dan R. Eastman	(801) 295-5133
Darin Peterson	(435) 623-2271
Lyle W. Hillyard	(435) 753-0043
Beverly Evans	(435) 454-3719
Thomas Hatch	(435) 676-2214
John W. (Bill) Hickman	(435) 674-5203

Untitled by Joey Lee

Can any, will any consider the children?
Books and writing paper, pencils, crayons,
art supplies could would be appreciated but
most of all be useful.

How many have not enjoyed Curious
George, green Eggs and Ham or Where the
Wild Things Are?

Art is and always should be a part of life,
everyones life. Music is art. Literature is art,
films are art. Any kind of craft is considered
art. Even Lascaux cave paintings are con-
sidered art.

FATHER'S DAY

There isn't a more cohesive bond
Than the binding and bonding
Of a father, daughters' and sons
Designed by God to be a close one,
The gift is free, and a sacred one.
It's more than love and mere respect,
When each the others genes reflect.
Part of the plan of the great architect,
That we love regardless of defects.
The plan is old and quite advanced
It's a lot more than happenstance.
Though consorting and catharting
Each giving the other a chance,
This eternal bond, further enhanced,
Creates a more loving circumstance.

Sam King
5-18-03



Room For Rent

One bedroom, microwave,
share bathroom, small fridge,
garden area.

Utilities included.

NP,NA,ND,NS

Mature quiet person only.

250/mo 100.00 dep

952-9211 voice mail, 7 rings

1523 W. Whitlock Ave WVC (2495 S.)

Don't be duped! *by Dee Rowland, Government Liaison Utah Catholic Diocese*

One of the horrors of the present controversy on immigration law reform is the effort to portray undocumented immigrant workers as a particular threat to the native low-income population. When people are vying for a limited number of public services, this is a very effective strategy.

As a representative of the Catholic Church, let me attempt to explain why we support both comprehensive immigration reform that offers a path to legalization for the undocumented while continuing our historic support of the native-born working poor. These are not opposing goals!

First of all, we believe in efforts to reduce global poverty by pursuing economic development in the sending countries. But even if jobs were available in all countries, we believe reforms would be necessary in order for our nation's immigration system to respond to the realities of separated families and the labor demands of the United States. Our nation's economy demands foreign labor, yet there are insufficient visas to meet this demand.

Immigrants fill jobs in key sectors, start their own businesses, and contribute to a thriving economy. The net benefit of immigration to the U.S. is nearly \$10

billion annually. As Alan Greenspan pointed out, 70% of immigrants arrive in prime working age. That means we haven't spent a penny on their education, yet they are transplanted into our workforce and will contribute \$500 billion toward our social security system over the next 20 years.

Immigrants pay taxes, in the form of income, property, sales, and taxes at the federal and state level.

Immigrants come here to work and reunite with family members. They do not come here to take welfare. In one estimate, immigrants earn about \$240 billion a year. Pay about \$90 billion a year in taxes, and use about \$5 billion in public benefits. In another cut of the data, immigrant tax payments total \$20 to \$30 billion more than the amount of government services they use. (All the figures listed here can be documented at [HYPERLINK "http://www.justiceforimmigrants.com"](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.com))

It is so important that people lacking sufficient income and access to affordable health care not turn against each other and be divided by rumors and myths and the assumption that there are not enough resources to allow a decent standard of living for us all.

UTA Haiku *by Laine Gardinier*

Rising transit costs
No bench at this muddy stop
Long live UTA!

UTA big shot
Which bus do you ride daily?
OH- you drive a car!

Axe some more bus lines
No safe way home after dark
"Courtesy Stop"-cuts!

Deep bigwig pockets
Lined with shiny silver coins
That fell out of mine

We need mass transit
On time, low fares, clean safe stops
All aboard the bus!

Come ride UTA
Bring a quarter for the fuel
Poor? Pay anyway



AHAC Board Co-Chair: Laine Gardinier

In 1996 Laine became interested in getting the sales tax on food removed. This interest led her to volunteer at Crossroads Urban Centers Food Pantry. After her time volunteering at Crossroads was over she wanted to stay involved. That's when she heard about AHAC and decided to join. This year Laine was elected as one of AHAC's Co-chairs this year and AHAC members are pleased she decided to serve in this capacity. Laine is a talented writer. You can see some of Laine's Haiku poetry in this month's AHAC newsletter. Laine's work has also been featured on AHAC's new blog, (WWW.utahhealthstories.blogspot.com/) Go to the web site and read the lyrics, or sing along to the song she wrote called "John Valentine is Going To Vote. (Sung to the tune of "Santa Claus is Coming To Town")"

A Washington State native, she has been married for 2 1/2 years. She and her husband Jon have cats. She likes outdoor activities, hiking and taking long walks. They have a flower and vegetable garden on their balcony.

Laine is currently studying Sociology at Salt Lake Community College. She plans to enroll at the U for the fall Semester. She hopes to apply what she learns in school to what she



does now. She wishes the legislature would show they cared more about the people who voted for them. Laine is the type of person that if she can help someone she will. She loves to help out. Laine enjoys the challenges of working with AHAC, it provides a purpose for living. She appreciates the people she has met through AHAC and says being involved with AHAC is a real "sanity saver".

Laine encourages people who have a passion to help others to join AHAC, it makes you feel empowered to speak out, have a say in how things are going and you get to meet decision makers and other important people.

The *Anti-Hunger Advocate* is a monthly newsletter of the Anti-Hunger Action Committee (AHAC).

Our Mission: The Anti-Hunger Action Committee is a membership organization composed of and led by food pantry clients and their friends.

-We unite many different kinds of people served by food pantries in order to increase community involvement of low income Utahns.

- We educate Salt Lake County residents about available resources and issues facing food pantry clients.

- We organize food pantry clients and their friends to take action on their own behalf.

- We promote solutions to problems that cause hunger and poverty in the lives of our members.

Our Supporters: AHAC receives funding from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, the United Methodist Church's Domestic Hunger and Poverty Program, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Hunger Grant Program, the United Church of Christ Hunger Action Fund, MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger and the Crossroads Urban Center.

Submissions: To submit an item to the newsletter, please contact AHAC at Crossroads Urban Center, 364-7765.

Previous issues of the newsletter are available either at Crossroads, or on-line at: www.crossroads-u-c.org