

THE ANTI-HUNGER

September 2003

ADVOCATE

Brought to you by the Anti-Hunger Action Committee of Crossroads Urban Center

347 South 400 East, Salt Lake City 1-888-747-8482 or 364-7765

The Anti-Hunger Action Committee (AHAC) organizes low-income individuals and their allies to take action on their own behalf to improve the social safety net and promote better jobs.

MONTHLY AHAC EVENT:

AHAC is having a night of crafts! Knit with Dorothy. Build models with David, or bring something of your own. Join us

Tues. Sept 16th

6:00pm

**347 South 400 East
Crossroads Urban Center**

Free refreshments. Bring a friend!

For more information call Bill at 364-7765



Happy birthday Donna!

Mayoral Debate Heats Up SLC!

Thursday, August 21st, AHAC members met at the Salt Lake Community College to hear the mayoral candidates debate. We asked about their feelings towards providing incentives for businesses that paid their workers a living wage. Rocky seemed to believe that his hands are "tied" by the legislature. Pigninelli, meanwhile, simply lifted his hand saying that he supported and has always supported a living wage. Hola didn't say anything. We will be going to another mayoral debate later this month (TBA).

Don't forget to vote on Oct. 7th for the mayoral primary and make sure that your voice is heard.



Singing with Rudy and Donna at the potluck.

UTA + Food Stamp Recipients= Possibilities!

Members of AHAC met with John English, the UTA general manager, to speak to him about creating an affordable bus pass for Food Stamp Recipients. Although no promises were made, our ideas appear to be viable options. Food Stamp Recipients would be able use preexisting federal funding for the pass, allowing the state of Utah and recipients no out of pocket expenses. This could be not only a ground breaking event for the state of Utah, but could serve as an example to the rest of the country. If we want to make this happen, we must continue to work diligently. **If you are receiving Food Stamps, ask your case worker about the \$25 allotted to training and employment expenses and help make that difference.**

The AHAC Potluck Social

AHAC members met at Crossroads Urban Center to kick off its potluck social. AHAC is focusing on social interaction between members. We started the event with a “separated pairs” game in which the members were in search of their missing half--one of the other members (I.e.; salt needed to find pepper). The potluck continued with brief periods of time devoted to talking about AHAC’s current issues while other moments the room was filled with song. We appreciate everyone’s hard work with this event



We said goodbye to Ivy at this month’s meeting.



RED ROVER, RED ROVER, SEND SOMEONE OVER! - Beth Vincent-

When I was a little girl in elementary school we used to play “Red Rover, Red Rover, Send Someone Right Over.” In case you’ve never played the game here’s a description of it from www.gameskidsplay.net: “Kids line up to form 2 lines facing each other, all kids hold hands. The lines move away from each other. Each side takes a turn calling someone from the other team over to their side. They sing as a team, “Red Rover, Red Rover, send ‘so and so’ right over. That person runs and tries to break through the arms in the other line of kids holding hands. If they break

through, they return to their team and bring one of the other team back with them. If they can’t break through, they remain with the team that “captured” them. The game is finished when everyone is on the same side, in one line.”

Right now, we’re trying to convince the new governor to restore dental and vision care. In some ways I believe we’re playing Red Rover. On one side we all stand tightly holding hands, forming a solid, human chain with a common cause uniting us. On the other side stands a group of folks who aren’t even aware of the enormous power that we have if we form one, never ending, human chain, that is solidified by common beliefs.

While it’s not our intention to “capture” people, it is time to share our knowledge and beliefs about what is at stake: vision and dental care. If we can all form one line, cemented together by common beliefs, we present a formidable obstacle. We can stand and face the new Governor; Olene Walker, and present our message to her. If each of us stands alone it would be easy to ignore us, or even walk over us, but if stand united think of what we can accomplish? The possibilities are endless.

So I encourage everyone to take the risk of asking anyone and everyone you know to sign the petition to restore dental and vision care. Ask them to stand in line with us, and hold on tight to what they believe. We have to stand tall and firm, and let the new governor know that we’re not going away, and that it’s time to do the right thing. It’s time to use the \$41 million dollars that President Bush sent to Utah for Medicaid. We’re only asking for a minute proportion of that money. If we don’t take a firm stand now we can lose even more benefits later on. Let’s join together and stand up and be counted. United we stand, divided we’ll fall. It’s up to all of us to stand tall.

ASK LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OLENE WALKER TO RESTORE VISION AND DENTAL TO MEDICAID!

Sign the petition in the lobby of the Crossroads Urban Center Food Pantry!

Take copies home and get your friends to sign!

**For more information call Bill or Lisa at the office of the Anti-Hunger Action Committee
at 364-7765.**