

FACE Hunger and Homelessness Update for Spring, 2025

CONTACT SENATOR JOHN CURTIS AND ASK HIM TO PROTECT PROGRAMS THAT HELP UTAHNS TO AFFORD HOUSING, FOOD AND HEALTHCARE

One of the top priorities for President Trump and Congressional Republicans this year is making tax cuts that were passed five years ago permanent. If they fail to pass a bill extending those tax cuts before the end of 2025 all of those tax cuts will expire. Some Republicans in Congress are saying that every dollar in tax cuts should be paid for with cuts to government programs. Programs they have suggested be cut include Medicaid, SNAP, and housing assistance programs. Moderate Republicans have said they support making the tax cuts permanent but they will not vote for a bill if it includes major cuts to Medicaid.

For a bill to become a law it needs to get 218 votes in the House of Representatives and 51 votes in the Senate. Democrats are not going to vote for the bill because the tax cuts primarily benefit wealthy people and they generally oppose cuts to programs like Medicaid. Republicans have a very small majority in the House and the Senate and so every vote is important. That means that if Senator Curtis were to ask for part of the bill to change before the final vote there is a good chance the bill would be modified.

This is a horrible time to add to the financial burdens low income families are facing. The average rent in our community increased by 21 percent in the year 2021. Prices have only continued to increase since then. SNAP, formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, gives thousand of Utah families a card with money that can only be spent on groceries. Medicaid helps those same families to obtain preventative and medically necessary health-care. Housing voucher programs help individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless to pay the rent. Big cuts to any of these programs would increase homelessness in Utah.

Please reach out to John Curtis and ask him to stick up for struggling families in Utah by opposing major cuts to programs that help low income families pay for food, housing and healthcare.

Senator John Curtis Contact Information

Website Contact Form: <https://www.curtis.senate.gov/share-your-opinion/>

Provo Office: 801-841-2665

Salt Lake Office: 801-524-4380

*Learn more about this issue and sign up to receive email updates about it here:
www.crossroadsurbancenter.org/face*

What is FACE Hunger and Homelessness?

The Faith and Advocacy Coalition to End Hunger and Homelessness was created by Crossroads Urban Center make it easy for people from congregations that donate to our food pantries and thrift store to support public policies that would reduce poverty in Utah.

For over five years our focus has been child and family homelessness. We have produced reports on child homelessness, organized diaper drives and organized meetings with elected officials to discuss policies that would reduce child homelessness—particularly unsheltered homelessness.

Our goal is to make it easy for people who want to reduce hunger and poverty to find out about our coalition and get involved with our work. Here are a few ways you can get involved:

- Sign up for our weekly email updates,
- Attend one of our monthly meetings on Zoom,
- Contact a policymaker about our monthly action alert,
- Print our quarterly paper newsletter and post it on a bulletin board or give it to friends,
- Schedule a training at your congregation or community group, and,
- Organize a meeting with an elected official at your congregation or community group.

Learn more: www.crossroadsurbancenter.org/face



How Crossroads Urban Center can help with food, clothing and other necessities



Downtown Food Pantry: 347 South 400 East, Salt Lake City, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM. For more information call 801-364-7765.

Services Available: Food Bags or Boxes • Baby Formula • Diapers • Soap, Toothpaste & Other Hygiene Products • Tampons & Pads • UTA Day Passes • Prescription Assistance • Gasoline vouchers • Utility Shut-Off Prevention Assistance • Vouchers for Free Clothing at our Thrift Store.



Westside Food Pantry: 1358 West Indiana Avenue, Salt Lake City, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM. To learn more about our services or how you can volunteer or donate food call 801-935-4079

Services Available: Food Bags or Boxes • Baby Formula • Diapers • Soap, Toothpaste & Other Hygiene Products • Tampons & Pads • Vouchers for Free Clothing at our Thrift Store.



Thrift Store: 1385 West Indiana Avenue, Salt Lake City, Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM. Call 801-359-8837 for more information.

Services Available: Free clothing with voucher from one of our food pantries or a community partner. Discount price on used clothing and household items.