## UTAH HEALTH POLICY PROJECT

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## **News Release**

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## Judi Hilman Receives the Families USA Consumer Health Advocate of the Year Award!

Judi Hilman was presented with the Consumer Health Advocate of the Year Award at the Families USA annual Health Action conference in DC last week. The award, presented every year since 1998, recognizes outstanding contributions on behalf of our nation's health care consumers. The award was presented to Hilman for her commitment to improving access to quality, affordable health care for all Utah Residents.

We congratulate Judi for her leadership, dedication, and hard work. Utah Health Policy Project Board Chair Linn Baker stated, "Judi continues to be the conscience of our community, working to improve the lives of the disadvantaged, and helping those that are handicapped to live meaningful lives. As members of the Board of Directors we are very pleased that her devotion and hard work has been recognized on a national level."

"Judi Hilman is a passionate and gifted advocate devoted to fighting for health care access in her community and throughout Utah," said Ron Pollack, Executive Director of Families USA. "Throughout her career, Judi has dedicated herself to advocate for solutions to the health care crisis and to empower others to use their voices to advocate for justice," Pollack said today. "We here at this conference and the people of Utah are lucky to have Judi as an ally in the fight for universal, affordable, quality health care."

Hilman is Executive Director and cofounder of the Utah Health Policy Project, which was founded in 2006 to assure quality, affordable, comprehensive health coverage for all Utah residents through research, policy advocacy, and civic participation activities. Her work covers a broad range of policy issues that affect the uninsured, low-income medically underserved, people with disabilities, and minorities.

Prior to starting the Utah Health Policy Project, Hilman served as Health Policy Director and then Research Director for Utah Issues, Center for Poverty Research and Action. In 2008, Judi was selected as one of 10 Community Leaders by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Ms. Hilman holds an M.A. from Cornell University in History and B.A. (magna cum laude) from the University of California, Berkeley, were she studied history of medicine and German literature.

To speak with Ms. Hilman directly, please call her cell, (801) 870-3887.

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"The Board of UHPP is proud of Judi and of this recognition as it illustrates leadership and best practices from our state and in the national healthcare arena. Hilman embodies the courage and balance required to successfully deliver improved healthcare, from fact-based research to diplomatic politics. She is a leader for the system, for organizations and especially for people."

Bryn Ramjoue' UHPP Board Member.