



**2020**



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**



**Utah Health  
Policy Project**

# POLICY

In 2020, the UHPP policy team saw a wide range of victories from the implementation of full Medicaid expansion to increased insulin affordability to statewide recognition of the plight of uninsured children.

After years of tireless advocacy, Utah finally fully expanded the Medicaid program in January 2020, opening eligibility to tens of thousands of our low-income friends and neighbors just in time to provide a safety net during the COVID-19 health and economic crisis.

Utahns scored another victory when the burdensome Medicaid work reporting requirements were suspended by the state in April.

Thanks to voters, activists, and UHPP supporters, by the end of year, Utah had the highest Medicaid enrollment increase in the nation, welcoming almost 80,000 Utahns into expansion coverage, free from red-tape barriers.



## Closing the Oral Health Equity Gap

In 2020, UHPP furthered its work in oral health advocacy by having a consistent presence at the quarterly Utah Oral Health coalition meetings, elevating consumer voices and establishing strong relationships with new, key stakeholders such as the Utah Office of Health Disparities and the University of Utah School of Dentistry. UHPP contributed to the Oral Health Progress and Equity Network's Virtual Hill Day, participating in key conversations with members of Congress, including Utah's delegation, where they recommended preserving and extending oral health coverage for families on Medicaid, appropriating additional CDC oral health funding to ensure every state can invest in oral health infrastructure, and integrating oral health coverage into the Medicare program. UHPP is excited to continue to collaborate with Utah's oral health professionals and consumers in establishing policies that will promote oral health equity.

UHPP continued elevating the issue of high uninsured children throughout 2020 and highlighted how kids churn on and off Medicaid and CHIP due to administrative barriers. Public awareness of the benefits of Medicaid, and education on the issues facing our families, led to a prioritization of children's coverage during the ramp up of the 2021 legislative session.

UHPP made progress advancing policy changes that affect the private market of health care as well. During the 2020 legislative session, UHPP successfully advocated for several policies that will make health care more efficient and affordable for Utahns.

One of these policies will better utilize Utah's All Payer Claims Database (APCD) and help to reduce wasteful spending in health care. Another new policy created an insulin savings program, enabling more Utahns to purchase insulin at a discounted rate.

UHPP also served its first year as a consumer representative to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, which will help elevate Utahns' concerns on health insurance on the national level.

UHPP also fought for adequate COVID-19 response policies on the federal level, promoting increased Medicaid and state and local funding; housing, hunger, and cash assistance for families in need; coverage for COVID testing, treatment, and vaccine; a new ACA Marketplace enrollment period and enhanced premium subsidies; and more.



# ENROLLMENT

Take Care Utah (TCU) prides itself on helping with complicated, time-consuming cases. This includes mixed-status families, individuals with complex needs, and those with cultural or language barriers keeping them from accessing care. TCU plays a case management role by making sure people get insured and stay insured.

TCU actively stays in touch with everyone they serve after the initial enrollment to help with re-enrollment or re-certification and to assist them with any questions they may have. In other words, TCU's services do not end with enrollment.

TCU actively connects with individuals to make sure they do not just sign up for health insurance, but access care. Being one of the first programs of its type across the nation to implement this follow-up work, TCU became a national model for these "coverage to care" services.



## BY THE NUMBERS

UHPP's Health Access Assisters helped **207** people apply for health insurance through the Marketplace.

UHPP's Health Access Assisters helped **3,993** people apply for Medicaid programs.

Take Care Utah reached over **21,976** people through phone calls, presentations, media events, and outreach events. **39,284** people were reached via virtual and live hosted events.

**207,911** Utahns enrolled in ACA coverage in 2020, slightly higher than in 2019.

**2,347** of all 2020 applications were for the Targeted Medicaid Program (TAM), making up **78%** of enrollment for the year.



TCU continues to serve Utah's most vulnerable populations, such as, individuals involved in the criminal justice system, individuals experiencing homelessness and individuals with behavioral health needs. Through our Behavioral Health Enrollment program, TCU submitted **3,166** Medicaid applications virtually from our partner sites.

Due to COVID-19, TCU celebrated its fifth annual Hispanic Heritage Parade and Street Festival through a week-long virtual programming. We provided digital content and LIVE Facebook presenters to share valuable community information and resources. We covered topics related to health insurance, the 2020 Census, and voting. Our annual event helps to raise awareness of Utah having the highest uninsured rate for Hispanic children in the nation and to highlight the resources TCU offers to the Hispanic community.



# FINANCIALS | THANK YOU

INCOME	2019	2020
Foundation Grant	417,810.00	286,915.00
Government Grants	390,664.43	769,062.51
Corporate	22,672.07	18,755.00
Individual Donations	10,312.56	3,791.90
Contracts	182,591.23	250,343.37
Broker Commissions	72,535.13	68,706.43
Other Income	11,352.34	2,281.64
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1,107,937.76</b>	<b>1,399,855.85</b>
EXPENSES	2019	2020
Salaries and Related	766,917.32	937,611.86
Grants and Contracts	64,538.89	208,721.31
Office Supplies and Technology	45,070.96	31,600.23
Occupancy	40,572.29	47,455.00
Travel, Meeting and Outreach	59,882.13	8,387.77
Professional Fees	95,729.25	142,945.00
Business Expenses	17,725.09	11,328.65
Miscellaneous	710.96	425.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,091,146.89</b>	<b>1,388,474.82</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>16,790.87</b>	<b>11,381.03</b>

## A Message from UHPP's Executive Director

Dear UHPP Supporter,

COVID-19 presented monumental challenges to Utah Health Policy Project during 2020, as it did to many organizations across the state and country. But, fortunately, due to your support and UHPP's tenacious and passionate staff, we weathered the storm and are emerging strong. Despite the pandemic and challenges presented by necessary social distancing, we made significant progress toward addressing inequities and insufficiencies in our health care system. Health Access Assistants swiftly shifted to providing remote Health insurance enrollment services. And UHPP policy staff leveraged technology to effectively educate and advocate stakeholders, holding UHPP's first ever Virtual Conference!

We are all looking forward to a much improved 2021, and we need all the support we can get to continue on the march toward progress.



In solidarity,  
Matt Slonaker

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Send donations to: <https://www.mightycause.com/organization/Utah-Health-Policy-Project>

Utah Health Policy Project  
2369 West Orton Circle, Suite 20  
West Valley City, UT 84119

