



HEAL UTAH
ANNUAL REPORT | 2021



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Lexi Tuddenham
Executive Director

A Letter from Our Executive Director

I am coming on at a time in HEAL’s history when the hard work of many leaders over the past 23 years has paid off. We have a solid foundation to build on, and our board, staff, and systems are stronger than ever. We are at the cusp of exciting changes that mean we can tap into our organization’s full potential to transform our state’s environmental health landscape.

In a more sobering sense, we are at a turning point. In July of 2021, Salt Lake City reported the worst air quality in the world due partly to wildfires and other climate change-driven factors. More recently, the Great Salt Lake has garnered national attention as a textbook case of the West’s interconnectedness of climate change, water, and air quality crises. Climate change imperils the quality of life for millions of Utahns, and the future direction of energy development has environmental justice implications for communities in Utah and around the world.

The challenge ahead is clear. We are working to maintain HEAL’s financial viability and impactful policy approach while also overseeing the expansion of the breadth and depth of HEAL’s work to address the root causes of climate change and environmental injustice.

We need to listen first, learn constantly, and build new relationships across political, social, and economic lines to mobilize Utahns in defense of a healthier environmental future and our shared values.

We remain the small but mighty organization that our supporters have believed in over the years, and we are rededicating ourselves to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice. We will fight for our future, and we remain solutions-oriented. We embrace the complexity of what it means to work effectively within the Utah legislature, finding common ground with allies across the ideological spectrum.

In this report, you’ll see that our strength is our people. Our board, staff, volunteers, supporters, and donors all unite to make a remarkable impact on our state. With your support in 2021, we accomplished some incredible things, all documented in the following annual report.

As you review this report, I hope you are inspired to continue your support of HEAL Utah and remain part of our community of supporters. For 23 years, we’ve worked side-by-side with our community to protect Utahns from threats to our environment, and we will continue to do so with your support for years to come.

Lexi Tuddenham
Executive Director

WE ARE UTAH'S ENVIRONMENTAL WATCHDOGS

The Healthy Environment Alliance of Utah has been an environmental advocacy organization, watchdog, and strategic influencer in Utah since 1999. By empowering grassroots advocates, using science-based solutions, and developing common-sense policy, HEAL has a track record of tackling some of the biggest threats to Utah's environment and public health — and succeeding. The organization focuses on clean air, energy and climate, and radioactive waste. HEAL uses well-researched legislative, regulatory, and individual responsibility approaches to create tangible change and then utilizes grassroots action to make it happen.



WE WORK TO PROTECT UTAH'S ENVIRONMENT + PEOPLE.

Together, we can create science-based policy solutions to safeguard our environment and protect Utah's most vulnerable populations.

WE ARE COMMUNITY DRIVEN

2021 was a remarkable year for HEAL Utah that has significant long-term implications for the future of the organization.

HEAL Utah has proven again that our grassroots-driven, evidence-informed advocacy model continues to deliver results.

Even with a more environmentally friendly federal administration, the work of HEAL Utah remains challenging and important. Undoing the damage of the previous four years, the gridlock in Congress, the influence of powerful fossil fuel and nuclear lobbying groups, and the policy challenges here in our state have made HEAL's work as essential as ever. In 2021, some seasoned HEAL staff moved on to new opportunities, and we welcomed new team members with new ideas, skills, and enthusiasm. In light of everything else happening in the world, we feel grateful that HEAL has not only endured during the pandemic but adapted and thrived.

We remain inspired by our community, which has supported us through two difficult years. Our legislative volunteers are a testament to what can be done despite overwhelming odds. During the 2021 legislative session, 32 volunteer citizen lobbyists contributed over 100 hours to support HEAL Utah's policy priorities. We continue to work for a sustainable and equitable future for Utahns alongside our supporters.

CITIZEN LOBBYIST HIGHLIGHT



Ashlyn Jack



This was my first time participating in the legislative process, and I feel grateful that my experience started with HEAL. Having the opportunity to get a better understanding of the ins and outs of the legislature helped me know where to focus my energy and where I could make the biggest impact. HEAL did a fantastic job of making sure that all of the volunteers felt prepared to speak with the representatives about the bills. Through this process, I learned more about the strategies in environmental lobbying and gained insight into the specific bills that were being addressed in Utah. This experience pushed me out of my comfort zone, but I felt supported through the whole process and confidently speaking with representatives feels more accessible now. Volunteering with HEAL has made me even more interested in environmental justice and given me the opportunity to connect with community members who are just as passionate as I am. I would highly encourage anyone with an interest in combating the climate crisis to connect with HEAL for volunteer opportunities. You will meet some fantastic people making a positive impact on our environment, and be able to take meaningful action on behalf of your community!

2021 SNAPSHOT

HOUSE BILL 346

During the 2021 legislative session, a bill was proposed to merge the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Together with our supporters, we opposed this bill, as it would have merged two departments with conflicts of interest. Over 45 supporters filled out an action alert, and this bill eventually was opened for extended public input.



HEAL and coalition partners helped guide the Community Renewable Energy Program (also known as H.B411). Through this program, participating communities aim to jointly submit a program application with Rocky Mountain Power. If approved the program would provide a new default net-100% renewable electricity option for all residents and businesses located in participating communities. HEAL reached over 1,000 individuals in person and virtually with education and tools to support this program.

28 EVENTS

In total, HEAL Utah hosted 28 events on topics ranging from sustainable development and climate change to air quality and radioactive waste. These events engaged over 5,250 people during the year.

TAKE ACTION

HEAL Utah leveraged our extensive social media following to inform and engage our supporters. Throughout the year, we organized **17 targeted actions** that allowed our supporters to engage directly with elected officials and make their views known on various public policy proposals. Over **2,900 people** took part in these actions.

GOING SOLAR

HEAL Utah partnered with a local B Corp Solar company, Creative Energies, to provide the community with solar panel education and discounted rates. Through this program, 15 households installed solar panels, and over 200 individuals learned about the benefits of solar.

GOING DIGITAL

Our digital organizing reached over 358,098 people throughout the state.

@HEALUTAH

IN THE NEWS

Throughout the year, HEAL Utah was in over **90 news segments**, including radio, online articles, newspapers, and TV, bringing awareness to both environmental threats and ways to take action.

PARTNERSHIP

In 2021, HEAL Utah developed over ten productive, collaborative partnerships with community, state, and public organizations





CLEAN ENERGY

We remain committed to ensuring that state laws and public policies promote clean energy and mitigate the effects of climate change.

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OUR CAMPAIGN

HEAL Utah believes that a clean energy future can mitigate climate change and facilitate adaptation by forming the foundation of a new and sustainable economy. Creating a cleaner future will require a transition to renewable energy on an individual and industry-wide scale. As part of this transition, fossil-fuel-dependent communities that have powered the progress of the last century should receive an investment of public funds for revitalizing their economies and retraining their workers. We rely on technical modeling to help inform our policy and regulatory recommendations at the local and statewide levels. In 2021 HEAL's energy and climate work progressed in the following ways:

1. Assisted about two dozen Utah communities served by Rocky Mountain Power in pursuing their 100% renewable energy goals through the Community Renewable Energy Program.
2. Continued to pursue our legal challenge of the EPA's Regional Haze ruling that gave Utah's coal-fired power plants a pass. HEAL is challenging a Trump-era rule that let PacifiCorp avoid reducing CO2 emissions from its coal-fired power plants. The case is making its way through the courts.
3. Expanded our work to actively encourage the enforcement of methane emission regulations and oppose expanded fossil fuel extraction in the Uinta Basin.
4. Partnered with Creative Energies to offer discounted rooftop solar installations to new and existing HEAL supporters.
5. Obtained a \$200,000 federal grant to work with Salt Lake County and UTA to put air quality monitors on buses serving low-income communities.
6. Worked with legislators to develop proposals for tax incentives for residents and businesses who invest in energy storage technology.
7. HEAL gave input on the planned revision of Utah's Energy Plan.

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CLEAN AIR

HEAL Utah is committed to ensuring that state laws and public policies protect Utahns from air pollution.

OUR CAMPAIGN

Clean air is the dominant public health concern for Utahns living along the Wasatch Front. Small particles called PM2.5 clog our urban areas in the winter while, in the summer, invisible ozone pollution plagues these valleys as well as those adjacent to the oil, gas, and mining fields of the Uintah Basin. This year, HEAL Utah's work on air quality continued and grew in the following ways:

1. Successfully supported legislation that created a permanent diesel vehicle emission testing program in Utah County and authorized a \$1.4 billion bond for specific transit and recreation projects ranging from improving bus rapid transit, and double-tracking FrontRunner, to performing environmental studies.
2. Successfully defeated bills that would have dramatically increased registration surcharge fees for electric vehicles and put the Division of Air Quality in the same state agency with the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.
3. Met with members of the Utah Inland Port Authority board and legislators to pursue mechanisms to ensure much more rigorous standards for public input, accountability, and transparency on the actual impacts of the development.
4. Opposed efforts by the oil, gas, and mining industries to obtain a federal waiver that would exempt the state from compliance with the EPA's ozone standards.
5. Began engaging with policymakers and advocacy organizations on the looming threat to air quality along the Wasatch Front posed by the shrinking of the Great Salt Lake.



TOXIC WASTE

We remain committed to ensuring that state laws and public policies protect Utahns from radioactive waste.

OUR CAMPAIGN

Utah's long and tragic history of exposure to radioactive fallout, uranium mining and milling, and nuclear waste has left scars that our work continues to mitigate. Since our inception, we have fought to protect the communities threatened with exposure to these and other poisonous substances, and we continue this fight.

1. Led an advocacy campaign to convince 8 Utah cities to withdraw from participating in a risky proposed nuclear power project, reducing their support by over 50%. This victory for financial responsibility was made possible through a unique collaboration between HEAL Utah and the Utah Taxpayers Association. Our vigorous opposition to the so-called Carbon Free Power Project, has left the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems (UAMPS) unlikely to complete the proposed project, which was downsized by nearly half last year.
2. Maintained our work as a watchdog of every step of EnergySolutions' permit requests to dispose of depleted uranium and create a new solid waste landfill for the debris from nuclear power plant decommissioning projects.
3. Actively opposed the efforts of Energy Fuels to dispose of foreign radioactive waste at their White Mesa Uranium Mill. In July 2020, The Utah Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control approved White Mesa Mill's plan to accept and process radioactive waste from two facilities run by the Japan Atomic Energy Agency.
4. As of December 2021, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is preventing the Energy Fuels White Mesa Mill from processing hazardous waste due to what the agency reports as a lack of adequate liquid cover on one of their waste cells. This comes after extensive public feedback from organizations, including HEAL Utah, who have submitted formal complaints and challenges to the proposal.
5. With support from HEAL Utah's policy team, members of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe are actively fighting against the active Mill and held an annual protest and spiritual walk to the White Mesa Mill in the fall of 2021.
6. Worked to convince Utah's federal delegation members to support legislation that expands the timeframe and eligibility in the Radioactive Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) for Downwinders. The changes in this legislation will ensure that individuals fighting or fighting serious health issues will receive the compensation they need to survive.



PUBLIC POLICY

SUCCESSSES

Below is a summary of the public policy successes in 2021 related to air quality, clean energy, and radioactive waste.

HB045 | Radon Study

Requires the Department of Natural Resources to study and make recommendations to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee on ways to increase public awareness about the risks of radon gas and ways to mitigate Utahns' exposure to radon.

HB091 | Tax Credit for Alternative Fuel Heavy Duty Vehicles

Reenacted and extended an income tax credit for certain alternative fuel heavy-duty vehicles.

HB433 | Amendments Related to Infrastructure Funding

Authorize a bond for transit projects, including improved bus rapid transit, double-tracking FrontRunner, and improving roads.

SB0146 | Emissions Testing Amendments

Made the diesel emissions testing program a permanent program for all Wasatch Front counties.

HCR018| Concurrent Resolution Supporting Extension and Expansion of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act.

This resolution encourages our national representatives to extend and expand financial compensation to American citizens affected by radiation exposure due to US government nuclear weapons testing.

SB015 | Workforce Solutions for Air Quality Amendments

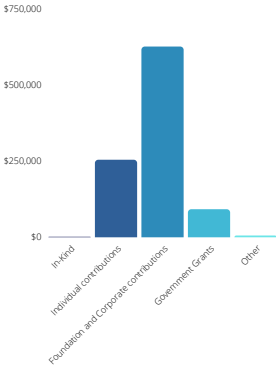
Instructed state agencies to encourage and measure the impact of teleworking options for state employees on poor air quality days and encouraged each state agency to reach a goal of 40% of employees teleworking on red air days and 70% of employees teleworking on purple and maroon air quality days.



FY2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

Once again, HEAL Utah had a successful year of fundraising due to our donors and supporters' longstanding and generous support.

All of us at HEAL Utah thank you for your dedication to our mission and for what you are helping us achieve. We take your commitment seriously and promise you our best in return.



CONTRIBUTED REVENUE

Revenue

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| IN-KIND | \$934 |
| INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS | \$253,657 |
| FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATE | \$625,221 |
| GOVERNMENT GRANTS | \$91,228 |
| OTHER | \$4,971 |

TOTAL

| |
|-----------|
| \$934 |
| \$253,657 |
| \$625,221 |
| \$91,228 |
| \$4,971 |

\$976,011

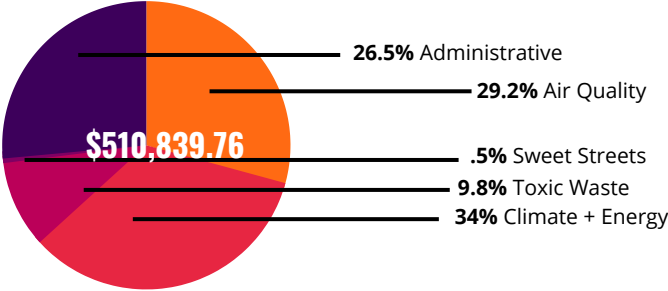
Expenditures

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| ADMINISTRATIVE | \$135,890 |
| AIR QUALITY | \$150,086 |
| TOXIC WASTE | \$50,200 |
| CLIMATE + ENERGY | \$174,662 |
| SWEET STREETS | \$2,628 |

TOTAL

\$510,840

EXPENDITURES



In 2021, HEAL Utah began a fiscal partnership agreement with Sweet Streets. Under the terms of the sponsorship, HEAL agreed to manage the finances of Sweet Streets until the organization had a strong enough foundation to become independent.

Sweet Streets was founded in 2020 with the mission to make streets in Salt Lake City safer and more connected for people traveling outside of cars. Transportation is the No. 1 source of particulate matter in the Salt Lake Valley. The group created guiding principles for the organization to identify ways to engage the state of Utah over critical street safety problems.

2021 Accomplishments

- Advocated for a 20 mph default speed limit in Salt Lake City, collecting more than 600 signatures and delivering 500-yard signs in every neighborhood of the city.
- Created a campaign strategy and mobilization effort to make Salt Lake City's first bus-only lane on 200 South through Downtown.
- Oversaw an internship with the University Of Utah to compile a report available at sweetstreets.org.
- Successfully advocated changing 200 East from a high-speed collector to a local street.
- Pushed the city to close a gap in the 300 East bike lane — one of the city's most popular and critical north-south routes — from 1000 South to 900 South.
- Received a grant from AARP to fund a wayfinding project including routes telling people the distance to various community locations in their neighborhood and the time it would take to walk or bike there.

Looking FORWARD

In early 2021 the AHE/CI Trust offered a \$120,000 challenge grant to expand our capacity to work on critical environmental issues in Utah over the next three years. After successfully meeting this match, a second \$60,000 match was offered. HEAL Utah successfully completed this challenge as well.

With these new
resources, we
expanded our
campaigns
capacity and
grew our team.



Our Team



Lexi Tuddenham
Executive Director



Melanie Hall
Senior Policy Associate



Alex Veilleux
Policy Associate



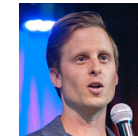
Carmen ValDez
Policy Associate



Scott Williams
Former Executive Director



Grace Olscamp
Former Policy Associate



Noah Miterko
Former Policy Associate



Kenna Patiño
Community Engagement



Meisei Gonzalez
Communications



Jordan Stein
Administrative



Turner Bitton
Development Director

Board of Directors

Evangeline Burbidge, Board Chair-Partner, Lewis & Llewellyn LLP

Evelyn Beguiristain, Chair-Elect -Senior Associate, Brex Asset Management

Christy Clay, Past Chair- Professor, Westminster College

Cameron Hodson, Treasurer-Audit Manager, Larson & Co

Paul Zuckerman-Teacher (retired)

Craig Buschmann-Partner, Ramey & Schwaller LLP

Sophia Nicholas-Deputy Director for the SLC Sustainability Department

Sophie Hayes-Senior Staff Attorney, Western Resource Advocates

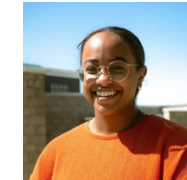
Dee Rowland-Government Liaison and Director of the Peace & Justice Commission for the Utah Catholic Diocese (Retired)

Myron Willson - Deputy Chief Sustainability Officer at the University of Utah Office of Sustainability (Retired)

Internship Highlight



Kendall Smith-Williams



Iman Ibrahim



Elliot Parkin



Abby Andelin

Our Sponsors





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