



From the Executive Director's Desk

— Claire Mantonya

2008 National SABE Conference

Utah is Well Represented

During the first weekend of September, nineteen Utahns dressed in lime green t-shirts, descended on Indianapolis, IN to attend the biennial National Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered Conference. The Council sponsored several members to attend as well as a number of People First members paid their own way. Bryon Murray, the Region 8 SABE representative who lives in Roosevelt and is the past Council Chairperson, ran for the national president position. Although unsuccessful in his bid as president, he represented Utah well and also led a well received breakout session "How to use your supports like the president of the United State".

Five additional self-advocate Council members were also selected to present three additional break out sessions! Kelly Holt from Price, and Reed Hahne from Orem were co-presenters during a breakout session entitled, "How to be a Superhero". Eric Stoker and Eder Soriano supported by volunteer Frances Maestas from West Jordan also co-presented. Tom Brownlee from Eagle Mountain presented a session about protection and advocacy organizations.

Other people who attended the conference included: Lenny Jones from Provo; Susan Wilson and Jessica Deakin supported by volunteer Linda Sylvester from Brigham City; Pat Stephanoff from Salt Lake; State People First Chairperson Nicki Jeffs from Heber; James O'Neil from Park City; Ameer Stone and Lizeth Flores from South Jordan.

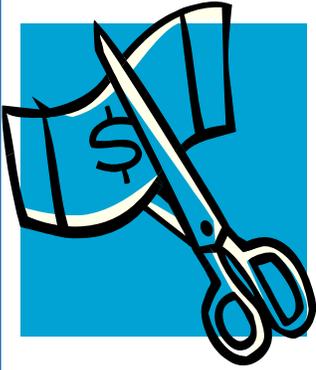
New Council Members appointed by Governor Huntsman



Trevor Spackman and Eric Stoker have been appointed as of October 1, 2008, to serve a three year term. Trevor is the father of a 4 year old boy with autism. He lives in Sandy and is enthusiastic about getting involved in advocacy in the disability community.

Eric Stoker is the President of the new South Valley People First group and is a newly developing youth leader.

Council impacted by state funding cuts



The State Legislature decided to follow the recommendations for cuts from the Department of Human Services Director Lisa-Michele Church and cut all state funding to the Council. The state funds make up approximately 20% of the Council's annual budget with the funding primarily coming from the Congress through the Public Law 106-402 – the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000. The Council will be meeting in November to determine what projects will be cut and not funded with this huge reduction in revenue.

Grass Roots Advocacy



Council Members encourage you to get involved.

This year, maybe more than ever, it is critical that the disability community get to know their elected officials and tell them about how important maintaining services is and how cuts may impact individual lives. Council members are encouraging people to attend the upcoming Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities Advocacy Training on December 4th. You can visit the LCPD online at www.lcpdut.org for more information and to learn how you can make a difference.

LCPD Conference & Advocacy Training: December 4, 2008
Sanderson Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing,
5709 South 1500 West, Taylorsville, UT
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM.



ACCESS UTAH BEGINS ONLINE BROADCAST

[Access Utah](http://www.ustream.tv) presents a new informational live broadcast via www.ustream.tv every month called Access Utah Now! Please join us for our next broadcast on **Thursday, November 20th at 11:30 AM** by going to www.ustream.tv and search for "Access Utah Now" in the search box. Our guest will be Heather Young from the Center for Persons with Disabilities and will talk about the Utah Assistive Technology Program (UATP). If you have any questions for Heather or Mark, please email Mark at msmith@utah.gov before the show so they can address your questions during the broadcast.

UDDC 2008 Advocate of the Year Awards



**Congratulations to all of our Advocacy Award Winners
and Nominees!**

Volunteer of the Year: LuWenn Jones

LuWenn lives in Cedar City and is currently Chair of the Family to Family Network. She spends countless hours volunteering on behalf of the disability community as well as devoting her career to people with disabilities and their families.

Educator of the Year: Kathleen Winch

Kathleen Winch is a teacher at the Jordan Valley School in Midvale. She has devoted many years of service advocating for people in the disability community that cannot advocate for themselves. She is tireless and passionate about her job.

Parents of the Year: Christie and Alva Jameson

The Jameson's have adopted 36 children with multiple disabilities over the years. They currently provide a loving home and impeccable care for their 14 children still living at home. They live in South Jordan.

Self-Advocate of the Year: Kelly Holt

Kelly Holt from Price is currently serving as Vice-Chair of the Utah DD Council and was Chair of the Transportation Committee for the past year, as well. She took part in the Determined to Vote project and had her letter published in the Salt Lake Tribune protesting the movie, "Tropic Thunder" and the disrespectful treatment of people with intellectual disabilities.

Legislator of the Year: Rep. Dave Litvak

State Representative (Salt Lake House District 26) David Litvak is the House Minority Whip and advocates for the rights of all Utahns, including individuals with developmental disabilities.

Media Representative of the Year: Nadine Wimmer

Nadine Wimmer currently co-anchors KSL 5 Television's Eyewitness News. She also produced a series of reports called "Staying Safe," to help parents protect their families from danger, injuries and other preventable problems. Nadine is a Utah native and attended the University of Utah.

Nominees

Rhea Casper
Nancy Bassett
Lorna Squires
Suzanne Benally
Charles Holt
Jim & Janet Witherspoon
Kris Fawson
K. Paul Kuhn
Vicky Clayson
Lauren Artesani

Sam Penrod
Laura Johnston
Doug Hathaway
Penny Turner
Ora Hegerhorst
Elsie Dee
Karen Holt
Christine Osburn
Kenny Robertson
James O'Neill

Jon Westling
Bill Wise
Lisa Polster
Kevin VanTassell
Brad King
Ron Bird
Glenda Stroh
Kayla Hansen
Ella Redhouse
Marsha Honore-Jones
Paula Miller

UTAH DD COUNCIL CALENDAR FOR 2009

(Please check the UDDC website frequently for updated information)

- November 18: Full Council Meeting: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**
December 9: Executive Committee Meeting: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
January 13: Full Council Meeting: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
February 17: Executive Committee Meeting: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
March 10: Full Council Meeting: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
April 14: Executive Committee Meeting: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
April 26 - 29: Disability Policy Seminar, Washington D.C.
May 12: Full Council Meeting: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
June 9: Executive Committee Meeting: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM



Call us with your disability questions!
800.333.8824 www.accessut.org

