



2024 Annual Report

Unify | Strengthen | Elevate

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About UNA



Utah Nonprofits Association (UNA) believes in the power of nonprofits. Utah's nonprofits transform communities and change lives, turning sickness into health, victims into survivors, disenfranchised into empowered, inequality into justice, and vulnerability into resilience. UNA strengthens the impact and reach of these critical organizations by advocating for Utah's nonprofit sector and equipping professionals with the knowledge, resources, benefits, and connections they need to advance their missions.

As a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, UNA understands the challenges nonprofits face firsthand. We operate with a diverse revenue model, an engaged board of directors, and a steadfast vision for the future—ensuring that we can unify, elevate, and strengthen Utah's nonprofit sector in every corner of the state.

Our Mission

To unify, strengthen, and elevate Utah's nonprofits.

Our Vision

To promote strong and vibrant communities for all of Utah.

2024 Spotlight

Collaboration and Community

Nonprofits thrive when they come together to solve problems. In 2024, we saw the power of collaboration in action—organizations connecting, learning, and strengthening their collective impact. Whether through networking events, peer learning circles, or advocacy efforts, nonprofits supported one another, proving that community is at the heart of lasting change.

From packed conference sessions to grassroots policy initiatives, UNA provided spaces for nonprofits to share knowledge, build partnerships, and find solutions to common challenges. These connections didn't just spark ideas; they created momentum—fostering new collaborations, amplifying voices, and reinforcing the vital role nonprofits play in Utah's communities.

As we look ahead, UNA remains committed to growing this network of support. Working together, nonprofits can tackle even bigger challenges, seize new opportunities, and continue shaping a stronger, more connected future for all.



From Our CEO

Love is a verb. It's action — and no one shows that better than nonprofits. Every day, nonprofits and the people who power them — staff, volunteers, and board members — choose love by showing up for our communities. They show love by feeding families, sheltering neighbors, teaching new skills, amplifying voices, protecting our environment, and building spaces where everyone belongs. They do this work because they believe in something bigger than themselves.

After years of working alongside nonprofits, I can say this with my whole heart: I love this sector — not just for what nonprofits do, but for who they are. I love the way nonprofit leaders see problems not as barriers, but as invitations to act. I love the relentless creativity they bring to solving challenges, stretching every dollar and every hour to serve just one more person. I love their courage to speak up, even when the conversations are hard —and their willingness to collaborate, even when resources are scarce. Nonprofits remind me, every single day, that love isn't passive. It's showing up, listening, rolling up your sleeves, and giving it everything we've got to make our world better.

I'm not alone in this love. Nonprofits are among the most trusted institutions in America — trusted more than twice as much as state government and over three times more than the federal government. That trust is no accident; it's built through years of showing up, solving problems, and centering on community needs. It's a powerful reminder that nonprofit work isn't just valued — it's essential.

To every nonprofit leader working long hours. To every board member giving their time and insight. To every donor who believes that investing in nonprofits is investing in the future of our communities. This is what love looks like — it isn't a feeling, it's a decision we make, over and over again, to show up and work for a better tomorrow.

As we look to 2025 and beyond, love will continue to guide UNA and nonprofits in Utah. Love will drive nonprofits to do the hard work of solving problems and creating opportunity. Love calls us to advocate for policies that support nonprofit missions. Love inspires us to create more spaces where nonprofit leaders can come together to learn, connect, and build strength from each other. And love reminds us that we are not just supporting organizations — we are standing with the people behind them and the communities they serve.

With deep gratitude for all you do,



Jill Bennett,
Chief Executive Officer



From Our Chair

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It has been an incredible honor and privilege to serve as the UNA Board Chair this past year. As a young girl from West Virginia, I navigated a landscape of challenges and trauma, ultimately finding my own path to triumph. Throughout that journey, I was consistently lifted up, given metaphorical "boots and straps," by the tenacious commitment of nonprofits. This opportunity to serve as Board Chair was both rewarding and humbling.

In Utah, nonprofits are the threads that weave together our communities. They fill the gaps when government programs fall short. They reveal the arts when schools are underfunded, heal the sick when resources are scarce, and provide education when others would rather look away. Ultimately, they fuel the passions of those brave enough to revolutionize the world.

In a world increasingly polarized, there is nothing more gratifying than stepping outside our own perspectives and empowering the vision of someone different. I've witnessed firsthand the remarkable collaboration of executive directors, coming together to solve the complex challenges of running understaffed and underfunded organizations, leaving with renewed hope and understanding. I've seen the faces of men given a second chance after wrongful convictions. I've gazed into the eyes of daycare specialists igniting wonder in our youngest citizens, connecting them to the natural world. And I've witnessed the compassionate commitment of those who ensure individuals pass with dignity, regardless of their circumstances.

Our members do the essential work. They are the heart and soul of our community. The UNA Team — staff and board members — are honored to support and empower them in these uncertain times. We applaud their essential work and commit to them with joy.

Thank you for your continued support of UNA and the vital work of Utah's nonprofit sector.



Charese Jamison
2024 UNA Board Chair



58



Events and Trainings

1,105



Individuals Covered by Health Insurance

2,628



Registrations

196



Individuals Enrolled in 401(k) Plan

452



Conference Attendees

952



Jobs Posted on the UNA Job Board

2024 Snapshot

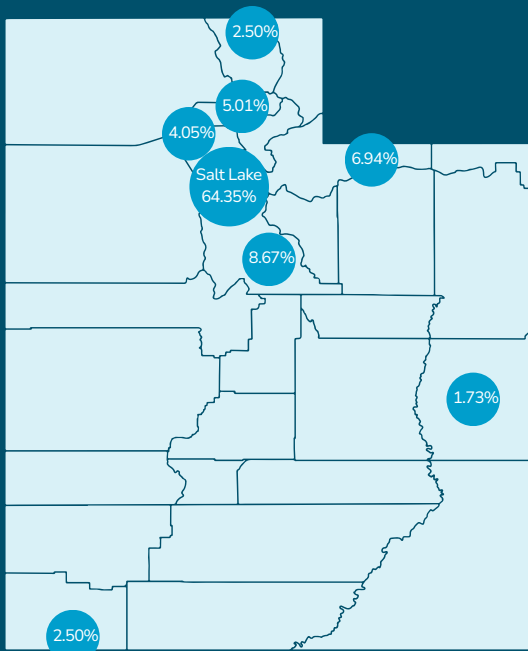
2024 was a year of significant progress and accomplishment for UNA. We expanded our training and events, reaching more nonprofit professionals than ever. The sold-out UNA Annual Conference highlighted the demand for connection and learning. Additionally, Utah Philanthropy Day saw its highest attendance ever in 2024.

This year, nonprofits connected, advocated, and collaborated through new and expanded opportunities at receptions, workshops, and events.

Member Data

as of December 31, 2024

Members by Region

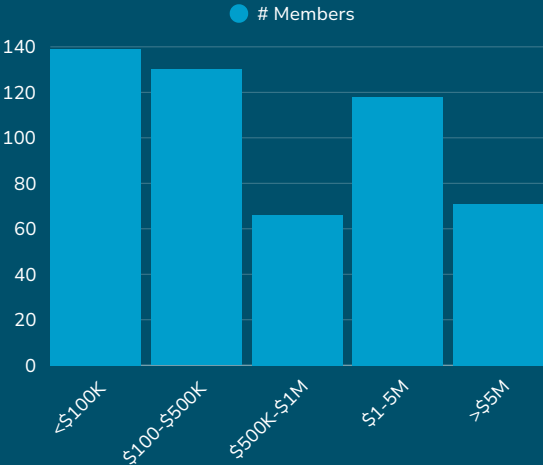


525
Nonprofit Organizations

54
Businesses

36
Individuals

Members by Budget Size



UNA Nonprofit Members are located statewide, serving all communities in Utah.

The majority are along the Wasatch Front, with 64% in Salt Lake County, 9% in Utah County, 7% in Summit County, 5% in Weber County, and 4% in Davis County.

Growing our presence in Cache, Washington, and Grand Counties continues to strengthen services and nonprofit support across Utah.

Most UNA Members operate on small to midsize budgets, with 17% reporting budgets under \$25,000, 10% between \$25,000 and \$99,999, 25% between \$100,000 and \$499,999, 13% between \$500,000 and \$1 million, 19% between \$1 and \$3 million, and 17% over \$3 million.

The majority of UNA Members serve missions in Human Services, the Arts, Education, Mental Health Services, and Environmental Protection and Stewardship.

The Inn Between



United Way of Northern Utah



Nonprofit Credential

The Nonprofit Credential is one of many ways UNA demonstrates its commitment to empowering nonprofits with the tools they need for success. Through a blend of expert-led training, comprehensive resources, and tailored consultations, participating organizations gain proficiency across nine critical areas.

This program serves as a cornerstone, addressing the evergreen need of nonprofit professional development and supporting practitioners as they address challenges, implement best practices, and invest in long-term sustainability.

With an emphasis on integration and adaptability, the curriculum prioritizes inclusive values and equity-centered practices, while respecting each nonprofit's unique culture and capacity. As the only program of its kind in the state, the Credential serves hundreds of professionals each year.

2024 UNA Credential Award

The INN Between and United Way of Northern Utah were awarded the UNA Credential Award for earning Badges in all nine Credential courses.

211

Participants

111

Organizations

91%

Increased Subject Matter Knowledge

37

Credential Badges Awarded

2

UNA Credential Awards

2024 UNA Annual Conference

Embrace + Embolden

The 2024 UNA Annual Conference: Embrace + Embolden celebrated the courage and creativity that drive Utah's nonprofit sector. Rooted in resilience and empowerment, this year's theme highlighted how embracing change and emboldening action can spark greater impact across nonprofits and throughout the state.

The Conference was held on October 10 and built on the excitement of last year's sold-out event. This year welcomed 452 attendees from diverse organizations who gathered to connect, collaborate, and innovate. The conference kicked off with two virtual pre-sessions focused on grantwriting and leadership communication, setting the stage for an incredible day of learning. The event featured 18 expert-led breakout sessions, hands-on networking opportunities, and two inspiring keynotes by Donna Murray-Brown and Dr. Timothy Shriver.

Attendees explored fresh ideas and solutions in the Exhibitor Hall, shared insights through facilitated networking, and enjoyed interactive opportunities to win prizes and deepen their connections.



Nonprofit Leader Awards

2024 Outstanding Nonprofit Leaders



To honor nonprofit leaders who go above and beyond for their organizations and communities, UNA celebrates Outstanding Nonprofit Leaders every year. These individuals not only persevere in the face of obstacles, but also engage and inspire the people around them. Their passion is contagious, and their results are impressive.

Jacob Crane

Executive Director
Cultural Fire Events
[Watch Jacob's Video](#)

Celeste Edmunds

Executive Director
The Christmas Box International
[Watch Celeste's Video](#)



2024 UNA Hall of Fame

The [UNA Hall of Fame](#) recognizes the unsung heroes of the nonprofit sector—the hard working staff whose exceptional work ethic, positive attitude, and unwavering dedication embody the values of their organizations. In 2024, UNA honored 25 individuals with a pin and certificate.

Utah Philanthropy Day

On November 7, the 2024 Utah Philanthropy Day celebration welcomed over 950 attendees to honor the generosity and acts of service that strengthen our communities. The event recognized Utah's leading philanthropists, volunteers, corporations, and foundations, including 132 Heart & Hands Award recipients whose selfless dedication continues to create lasting change.

2024 Honorees

Pat and Florence King, *Philanthropic Leadership Award*
Huntsman Family Foundation, *Foundation Spirit of Giving Award*
Clyde Companies, *Corporate Spirit of Giving Award*
Gachi Guet, *Governor's Career Humanitarian Leadership Award*
Dr. Erin Castro, *Lt. Governor's Public Service Award*
Cynthia Ponce-Orellana, *Outstanding Young Volunteer Award*
Peggy Montrone, *Outstanding Volunteer Award*
The Dell Loy Hansen Family Foundation, *Labor and Honor Award*



The Dell Loy Hansen Family Foundation



Gachi Guet



Advocacy and Public Policy

UNA is dedicated to protecting the rights and benefits of Utah's 11,000+ nonprofits while amplifying their voices in the legislative process. Nonprofits can and should champion policies that strengthen communities and advance the sector's vital work.

In 2024, UNA hosted its 16th annual Nonprofit Day on the Hill, bringing together organizations from across Utah to advocate and connect directly with lawmakers at the State Capitol. UNA also represented Utah's nonprofit sector on the national level, traveling to Washington, D.C., to participate in Lobby Day with the National Council of Nonprofits, advancing key legislative priorities that impact the sector.

UNA championed nonprofit-friendly legislation at both state and federal levels: supporting the Charitable Act in Congress and endorsing the Small Nonprofit Retirement Security Act of 2024. UNA opposed HR 9495, a federal bill that granted the Treasury nearly unfettered power to revoke the tax-exempt status of charitable nonprofits based on allegations of supporting terrorist activities, raising significant concerns for the sector.

Advocacy and education remained a key focus, and UNA trained nonprofits in advocacy and civic engagement in its Credential program as well as by partnering with the Utah Public Health Association. Through these efforts, UNA continues to ensure that Utah's nonprofit community remains a powerful and influential force.

Looking Ahead

2024 marked a period of growth and investment in UNA's ability to serve Utah's nonprofit community. We solidified new training programs, expanded member benefits, and grew our team—enhancing our capacity to provide meaningful support to nonprofits statewide.

We also took strategic steps to strengthen our infrastructure, investing in updated systems, including a new database, member hub, and website. These improvements streamline operations, enhance the member experience, and position UNA to better serve the sector for years to come.

As UNA continues to grow, we remain deeply committed to fostering collaboration, sustainability, and innovation. UNA is more than an association—we are a community dedicated to building a thriving nonprofit sector.

With each new initiative, partnership, and program, we reaffirm our unwavering commitment to supporting Utah's nonprofits and the communities they serve.



Team and Board



From left: Emily, Julie, Saru, Jill, Alison, Warren

UNA Team

Jill Bennett | Chief Executive Officer
Alison Anderson | Director of Operations
Saru Ramanan | Director of Communications
Julie Chang | Programming Manager
Warren Miterko | Membership Manager
Emily Nikolaisen | Marketing and Events Coordinator

2024 UNA Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Charese Jamison, Chair
Kristy Columbia, Vice Chair
Paul Burnett, Past Chair
Valerie DeRose, Treasurer
Susan Isbell, Secretary
Jason Krause

Directors

Jill Anderson
James Brown
Robert Castellano
Mayra Cedano
Ruby Chou
Natalie El-Deiry
Encarni Gallardo
Peggy Green
Susan Isbell

Chauma Kee-Jansen
Eric Marx
Amanda Millerberg
Liz Owens
Julianna Potter
Patrick Risk
Ed Roberson
Sariah Toronto

2023 Financials

UNA adheres to industry accounting standards and is committed to financial accountability and transparency. The Board of Directors provides robust financial oversight and an independent accounting firm completes an annual Financial Review. UNA maintains a strong financial position and diverse revenue stream which ensures its capacity to support and nurture nonprofits in Utah for years to come. UNA's Financial Review and most recent Form 990 are available on our website.

INCOME

Contributions	\$284,543
Program Revenue	\$302,269
Investment Income	\$13,716
Other Income	\$3,743
Total Income	\$604,271

EXPENSES

Salaries and Benefits	\$367,382
Fundraising	\$39,685
Grants Paid	\$55,946
Other Expenses	\$128,999
Total Expenses	\$552,327

NET REVENUE

Total Income	\$604,271
Total Expenses	\$552,327
Net Revenue	\$51,944

NET ASSETS

Assets	\$867,553
Liabilities	\$200,657
Net Assets	\$666,896

Source: Utah Nonprofits Association
2023 IRS Form 990.



2024 Supporters

When nonprofits thrive, communities flourish. UNA's work is made possible by the generosity of our sponsors, funders, and donors. Every contribution helps create a better Utah where essential services are accessible, where people and organizations come together to solve challenges, and where a spirit of service and resilience defines who we are. Learn more about ways to [support UNA](#).

Together, we're not just supporting nonprofits—we're building a stronger, better, and brighter Utah.

UNA Funders and Sponsors

Beehive Insurance Agency
Bountiful Peak
CCBank
CHG Healthcare
Comcast
Daniels Fund
Elevate 401(k)
Fidelity Charitable Catalyst Fund
First Nonprofit
Forvis Mazars
George S. & Dolores Doré
Eccles Foundation
Holdings
Holland and Hart LLP
Incite! Consulting
Intermountain Health
Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Kroger/Smith's Food and Drug
Larson & Company
The Lawrence T. & Janet T. Dee
Foundation
The Millerberg Family Giving
Fund
Morgan Stanley Bank, N.A.
National Council of Nonprofits
Nonstop Health
Pathway Group
Regence
Tanner LLC
Third Sun Productions
Union Pacific Foundation
UServeUtah

Individual Donors

Sudhir Amembal
Jill Anderson
Jill Bennett
Lorien Belton
Paul Burnett
Ruby Chou
Tyrene Christopulos
Kristy Columbia
Valerie DeRose
Encarni Gallardo
Don Gomes
Mara Haight
Susan Isbell
Charese Jamison
Brian Keyes
Jason Krause
Eric Marx
Sandra More
Liz Owens
Kyle Robbins
Richard Scoresby
Sariah Toronto

Utah Philanthropy Day Sponsors

The Andrus Family Foundation
Call to Action Foundation
CCBank
CHG Healthcare
Daniels Fund
Digital Bytes
George S. & Dolores Doré
Eccles Foundation
Holland and Hart LLP
Huntsman Family Foundation
Intermountain Health
The Kahlert Foundation
The Labor & Honor Foundation
Larry H. and Gail Miller
Family Foundation
Loveland Living Planet Aquarium
Mark and Kathie Miller
Foundation
O.C. Tanner
Pathway Group
Swire Coca-Cola
Third Sun Productions
University of Utah
University of Utah David Eccles
School of Business
XMission



 **P.O. Box 65782
Salt Lake City, UT 84165**

 **(801) 596-1800**
 **info@UtahNonprofits.org**

 **www.UtahNonprofits.org**
@UtahNonprofits

