



YEARS

# A Letter from Our Executive Director

HEAL has had an exciting and productive 2023 as we have welcomed both new staff and board members to the organization. We have seen some significant victories in our long-term work, such as the collapse of the Nuscale small modular nuclear reactor project, while also weathering disappointments like the loss of a lawsuit that would have cleaned up two of the dirtiest coal-fired power plants in the nation.

Taking the time to focus on a strategic planning process over the past year has allowed us to address new challenges, such as the increasing state-level politicization of environmental issues, as well as opportunities, like the gap in outreach capacity on environmental health issues by public health departments. In response, we have developed strategies that will allow us to work around the gridlock by activating power at the municipal and local level, and to partner with public health agencies for greater impact.

Increasingly, we are leaning into creative partnerships like labor and housing groups to work on common issues like transportation, highway expansion, and fair local hiring practices in renewable energy. We continue to be recognized and sought out by communities seeking our expertise in community organizing, policy advocacy, and environmental justice. We work side by side with them to create durable, equitable policy solutions on air quality, climate change, and radioactive and toxic waste.

Since we were first formed 25 years ago, HEAL Utah has maintained a throughline of commitment to protecting the environmental health of people in Utah, and a sustained belief that in order to have healthy people, you need to have a healthy environment and in order to have that you need to have a healthy and functioning democracy. That is why we focus on amplifying the voices of the public and making sure they have a part in the critical policy decisions that affect their future.

At the same time, we have also changed since our beginnings. One of our founders, Chip Ward, describes this as the evolution from a “primarily hair-on-fire defensive organization” to the proactive, credible, and compelling organization we are today. The same urgency is still there, but we also work within a robust civic landscape that we have been at the center of building. This journey has involved a whole yearbook’s worth of dedicated staffers, board members, interns, and community members inspired by HEAL, who have gone on to transform the environmental outcomes of not just our state, but our entire country for the better.

You are a critical part of HEAL’s work. Over the past 25 years your support and engagement have helped us to create a concrete path towards a safer, healthier, and more sustainable future for all of us to thrive in. Together, we continue to move down that path because of your dedication.

As we celebrate our quarter-century of impact, we can look forward with the certainty that while there is much more to do, our work has had a lasting and positive impact on the health and well-being of people and the environment in our state.

As Chip once put it, “The closest relationship many of us have to our environment is through our bloodstream.”

Thank you for making our work possible.



**Lexi Tuddenham**  
*Executive Director*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lexi Tuddenham', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.



25

PROTECTING UTAH'S ENVIRONMENT  
AND PEOPLE FOR 25 YEARS

clean  
AIR  
now  
healutah.org/cleanair

Utah's National Parks  
SERVE CLEAN AIR



# A QUARTER CENTURY OF IMPACT

Since 1999, HEAL Utah has been a relentless force for safeguarding our air quality, championing clean energy initiatives, and leading the fight against toxic and radioactive waste in Utah. Beginning as a group of Utah residents in Tooele fighting the incineration of chemical weapons in their backyards, HEAL Utah has evolved into a powerhouse of change in the state of Utah. Through a multifaceted approach encompassing education, grassroots mobilization, and policy at both state and federal levels, we have achieved significant milestones in protecting Utah's environment and its people.



Since the late 1990s, HEAL Utah has been the leading advocate for a waste-free Utah. Our achievements include passing legislation to ban Class B and C nuclear waste, intervening to stop the disposal of depleted uranium in the state, and commissioning a technical study that exposed the poor economics of small modular nuclear reactors. We also played a pivotal role in halting the proposed UAMPS Nuscale nuclear power project.

**KEEPING UTAH WASTE FREE**

**1990s**

TO TODAY

Since 2006, HEAL has been dedicated to holding polluters accountable. Our efforts have focused on opposing harmful projects and policies, including attempts to advance nuclear energy in Utah, merging state environmental and resource extraction agencies, and challenging the Inland Port Business Plan. We have advocated for stricter controls on Rocky Mountain Power's coal plants and published the Brown Sky report, highlighting the company's reliance on dirty energy and lobbying practices.

**HOLDING POLLUTERS  
ACCOUNTABLE**

**2006**

TO TODAY



Kennecott Garfield Smelter Stack  
Ed Kosmicki/photosourcewest.com



**POWERING UTAH  
WITH CLEAN ENERGY:**

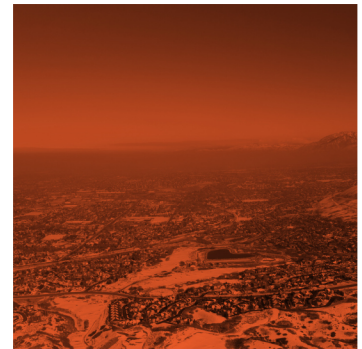
**2010's**  
TO TODAY

Since the 2010s, HEAL has championed clean energy, actively participating in Rocky Mountain Power's planning and co-authoring the eUtah report to lay out a path to renewable energy by 2050. Our advocacy helped create the Utah Renewable Communities program and prevented punitive fees on rooftop solar owners. We've also negotiated better rates for solar users and blocked increased fees on electric vehicles, consistently involving citizens and stakeholders in our renewable energy initiatives.

**CLEANING UP  
UTAH'S AIRSHEDS**

**2012**  
TO TODAY

Since 2012, HEAL has intensified its focus on promoting clean air through legislation and collaboration. We organized thousands of people at pivotal rallies to call for Clean Air Now, which spurred legislative attention, leading to 22 air quality bills considered and nine passed. A major victory in 2015 was the passage of the "not stricter than" bill, enhancing the power of air quality regulators.



WORKING ON THE HILL

# 2015 TO TODAY

HEAL Utah has been instrumental in shaping and passing pivotal environmental legislation. Notably, we championed Utah's first Climate Resolution (HCR007), acknowledging climate change and committing to action. We also supported extending and expanding the federal compensation program for Downwinders.

Additionally, passed bills establishing and then making permanent an emissions testing program for diesel vehicles in Utah County. Further, we've drafted a bill to economically incentivize the early retirement of coal plants, poised for introduction when favorable. And much more.



## PROTECTING THE GREAT SALT LAKE 2021 TO TODAY

In 2021, the drying of the Great Salt Lake emerged as a major concern due to its impact on air quality and the livability of our region. HEAL Utah, alongside other organizations, mobilized to address this issue, successfully passing numerous bills in the Utah Legislature and forming a coalition to seek community-driven solutions. Our ongoing efforts aim to maintain higher lake levels to safeguard our airsheds.

In 2022, HEAL Utah received a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to expand a successful mobile air quality monitoring program initially developed by the University of Utah, Salt Lake County, the Utah Transit Authority, and the Division of Air Quality. This expansion focuses on Salt Lake City's west side, enhancing understanding of air quality disparities. Together with partners, we're developing a dashboard for residents along the dedicated 509 bus route to access real-time air quality data, creating a tool for residents to engage in key environmental decision-making processes.

## Expanding Air Quality Monitoring

# 2023 TO TODAY



As interest in mining for renewable energy materials increases, HEAL Utah remains committed to protecting communities from harm. We have launched initiatives to ensure safeguards, strengthen regulations, and enhance transparency in mining. Notably, we have prevented mining in Parleys Canyon and extraction activities on the Great Salt Lake. Our ongoing efforts include monitoring legislation that could impact these commitments ensuring that environmental and community protections are prioritized in the pursuit of renewable resources.

## Balancing Mining and Community Safety in Renewable Energy Initiatives

# 2023

# A YEAR OF ADVANCING OUR MISSION

HEAL's mission is to **protect Utah's environment and its people** by promoting clean air, clean energy, and comprehensive solutions to radioactive and toxic waste.

Our main goals are to:

**PROTECT COMMUNITIES FROM  
AIR POLLUTION**



**BUILD AN INCLUSIVE  
CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE**

**PROTECT COMMUNITIES FROM RADIOACTIVE AND  
TOXIC EXPOSURE**





# EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

**75**  
EVENTS

HEAL organized and attended 75 events on various topics such as sustainable development, climate change, air quality, and radioactive waste.

CONNECTED WITH

**11,000**

Through these events, HEAL Utah connected with 11,000 people about environmental and health concerns throughout Utah.

**261,952**  
DIGITAL REACH

Online, HEAL Utah reached 261,952 individuals, informing them on air quality, energy, and waste issues.

# ACTIONS

**20**


ACTION ALERTS

In 2023, HEAL Utah organized 20 different opportunities for individuals to reach important decision-makers directly.

**2,800** ACTIONS  
TAKEN

Through our action alerts and community organizing, over 2,800 individuals submitted public comments or reached out to decision-makers regarding crucial environmental decisions affecting Utah's future.





Carmen Valdez, policy associate at HEAL Utah, speaks at a press conference calling on Utah's congressional delegation to support the legislative expansion of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act in front of the Wallace F. Bennett Federal Building in Salt Lake City on Monday, Nov. 6, 2023. | Megan Nielsen, Deseret News

## PROTECTING COMMUNITIES FROM RADIOACTIVE AND TOXIC EXPOSURE

We recognize that radioactive and toxic materials pose an environmental and public health crisis in tandem with our climate crisis. Consequently, HEAL Utah believes there is no inclusive clean energy future if we continue to ignore the impacts of extraction on public health and frontline communities. **When it comes to past, present, and future harms, we must stand with and protect Utah's communities.**

### OUR "TOXIC" LEGISLATIVE WORK

- **Advocated for Increased Radon Testing and Awareness in Rural Areas of Utah**
- **Successfully secured \$270,000 through the Utah Legislature to expand monitoring for airborne toxins from the newly exposed dry lakebed at the Great Salt Lake.**

## KEEPING UTAH WASTE FREE

In 2023, we monitored and opposed Energy Solutions' attempts to indefinitely increase toxic waste storage in Utah. New proposals for low-level radioactive waste storage and the decommissioning of nuclear power plants threaten to add to the radioactive waste influx into our state. As we prepare for a new NRC rulemaking, we are voicing our opposition to storing depleted uranium and other highly hazardous materials at Energy Solutions' facility.

## MITIGATING MINING HARMS

HEAL Utah's Mining Justice Initiative addresses the growing demand for minerals like copper, nickel, lithium, cobalt, and vanadium driven by the shift to renewable energy. Our strategy ensures that this transition doesn't repeat the environmental and health harms of past energy sources. We collaborate with coalitions to reform federal and state mining laws and promote reduced reliance on mining by advocating for sustainable transportation and waste reduction. Our goal is to reduce environmental pollution and protect communities from toxic exposure during the clean energy transition.

## URANIUM WATCH: PROTECTING COMMUNITIES, PRESERVING LANDS

HEAL Utah stands with the White Mesa Concerned Community against Energy Fuels' White Mesa Uranium Mill. We oppose uranium mining expansion in the Four Corners Area, including near the Grand Canyon. We also monitor a proposed uranium mill near Green River, Utah. As uranium prices rise, we organize communities to oppose long-term environmental pollution.

## JUSTICE FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY NUCLEAR TESTING AND THE URANIUM INDUSTRY

In 2023, we intensified efforts to expand the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA), collaborating with a National RECA Working Group. We hosted workshops and events with advocates and tribal leaders, leading to over 250 individuals contacting Congress through HEAL to support RECA. Our team also met with Utah's leaders to advocate for RECA's extension and expansion.





WASATCH FRONT INVERSION VIEWED FROM ENSIGN PEAK  
1,200 FEET ABOVE SALT LAKE CITY. / ED KOSMICKI,  
PHOTOSOURCEWEST.COM

## PROTECTING COMMUNITIES FROM AIR POLLUTION

We believe that action on air pollution is action on climate change and that advocating for clean air is one of the most immediate ways we can protect communities and the environment. That's why HEAL Utah works to **strengthen and defend regulations and air quality standards while supporting policies and strategies that prioritize public health and frontline communities.**

### OUR CLEAN AIR LEGISLATIVE WORK

- *Supported clean air initiatives like mobile air quality monitoring, zero-fare transit programs, and emissions reduction.*
- *Mobilized and fought against harmful policies such as electric vehicle charging station taxes, and detrimental mining amendments, and state funding for ozone rule litigation against federal air quality regulations.*
- *Advocated for additional funding for research on wintertime ozone pollution and on solutions for Great Salt Lake.*



## ADVOCACY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

HEAL Utah collaborated with policymakers and researchers to secure funding for enhanced dust monitoring networks. We focused on the drying of Great Salt Lake's impact on air quality, advocating for better monitoring systems in communities with higher exposure risks. HEAL also challenged a weak air quality State Implementation Plan (SIP), pushing for stronger measures to reduce ozone pollution. We engaged in legal actions and public campaigns targeting emissions from coal and petroleum industries, holding them accountable for meeting Clean Air Act standards for ozone and regional haze.

## COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION AND ENGAGEMENT

HEAL Utah mobilized communities through public comments, coalition efforts, and legal actions opposing projects like the Parley's Canyon gravel mine and I-15 highway expansion. We submitted technical comments on environmental justice issues, rallied public opposition, brought together coalitions, and planned legal and legislative strategies. HEAL also built regional partnerships, engaging with stakeholders and regulators as we amplified community concerns about health and climate.

## POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

HEAL influenced policy development by working with elected officials and decision-makers to recommend studies, programs, and funding requests. We focused on improving air quality by targeting vehicle emissions, area sources, and industry.

Monitoring and opposing bad regulatory decisions were key aspects of our work, including efforts related to the Regional Haze State Implementation Plan and challenging decisions that favored polluters over people. HEAL advocated for cleaner technologies, pollution reduction measures, and meaningful public input in decision-making processes.



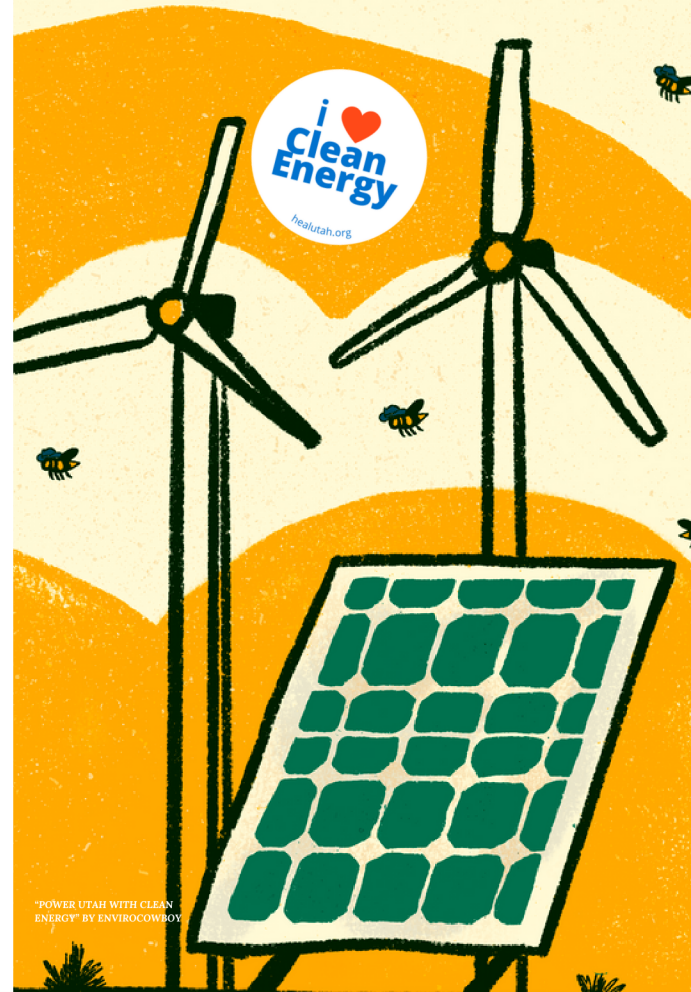
IMAGE FROM THE SAVE OUR GREAT SALT LAKE PROTEST. / CHANDLER ROSENBUG

# BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

**We believe that our energy system should be built for the people it serves.** That advocating for clean energy requires a holistic approach. That's why HEAL Utah works to advance a clean energy future that not only reduces emissions and stabilizes the climate, but also promotes adaptation, resilience, health equity, and economic opportunity in our communities.

## OUR CLEAN ENERGY LEGISLATIVE WORK

- *Effectively supported renewable energy incentives and funding to improve efficiency, invest in electrification, and advance storage policies.*
- *Mobilized to oppose policies hindering clean energy progress, including anti-renewable and anti-ESG measures, and further tax breaks for fossil fuel projects.*
- *Advocated for a transition away from fossil fuels, including tax incentives for large and small-scale renewable energy projects.*



## ADVANCING RENEWABLE ENERGY

In 2023, HEAL Utah advanced the goal of providing Utah communities with the option of 100% net renewable energy by 2030 via the Utah Renewable Communities Program (URC). When the mayor of Ogden, one of the largest communities in the program, was considering withdrawing, HEAL helped secure Ogden's continued participation, a notable achievement. Additionally, HEAL's efforts supported the 18 enrolled communities in meeting program requirements, keeping them on track toward their renewable energy future.

## SUPPORTING UTAH'S ENERGY COMMUNITIES

In 2023, HEAL launched vital initiatives to support communities historically reliant on fossil fuels, establishing connections in areas such as Carbon County, Southern Utah, and the Uinta Basin, all places grappling with the impacts of climate change. We collaborated with labor coalitions, community members, elected officials, and advocates to ensure communities and workers are part of Utah's clean energy future. Our advocacy emphasized geographically targeted state and federal funding, and clean energy policies tailored to local needs.

## HEAL UTAH'S STAND AGAINST PROFIT DRIVEN NUCLEAR ENERGY'S THREATS

HEAL Utah stands firm in its belief that energy systems should be designed to better serve people. This has led us to actively oppose financially driven and impractical nuclear energy initiatives that overlook community involvement, threaten our environment, and prioritize profits at the expense of people. Notably, our efforts were pivotal in stopping the Nuscale CFPP Small Modular Nuclear Reactor project last fall, underscoring our commitment to engaging with communities to highlight problems with transparency, the lack of input from local residents, economic costs, viability, and long-term health effects from uranium mining and storage of radioactive waste.



# LOOKING FORWARD

## BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND HEALTH EQUITY

We recognize that climate change is a threat to public health. These health risks, from worsening air quality to extreme heat, have disproportionate effects due to greater exposure to environmental hazards and their risk of exclusion from adaptive measures. That's why HEAL Utah is expanding to advance climate resilience strategies that prioritize public health and frontline communities.

## SAFE AND HEALTHY HOMES

In 2023, we successfully advocated for commercial building codes aligned with the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code, a crucial step in preventing buildings from becoming major emissions sources by 2030. Building on this success, HEAL aims to use this momentum to focus on residential homes with the goals of improving home efficiency and electrification while also advocating for updated residential codes.

## EXTREME HEAT

With 2023 marked as the hottest year on record, HEAL stepped up our efforts to protect vulnerable communities from extreme heat. In collaboration with Westminster College and NOAA, we produced educational resources and mapped temperature disparities in Salt Lake City, informing policy advocacy and critical healthcare initiatives.

ATTENDEE FROM HEAL UTAH'S LATINO CONSERVATION WEEK FESTIVAL WAVING AT FAMILY MEMBERS AT THREE CREEKS CONFLUENCE. / RYLEEFOTOS





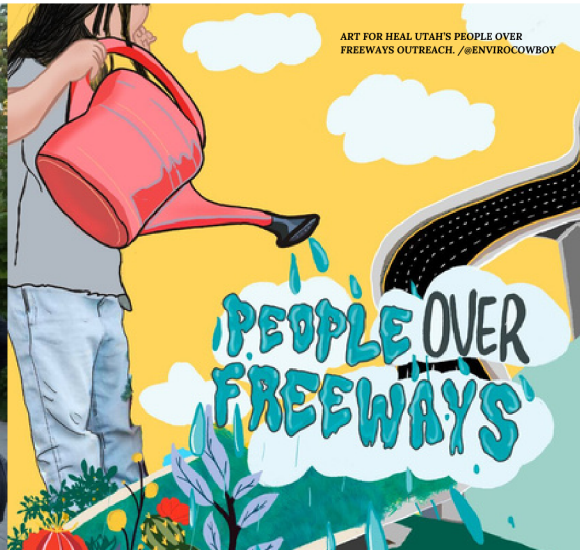
## E-BUS AIR QUALITY MONITORING

In 2022, HEAL secured EPA funding for an environmental justice air quality project to expand air quality monitoring on e-buses on the west side of Salt Lake County. As part of this effort, the program is developing a website highlighting areas with higher levels of air pollution. The real-time data provided on the website will ensure that residents can stay updated on their neighborhood's air quality and make decisions to protect their health while participating in the creation of air quality policy solutions.

## PUBLIC TRANSIT EXPANSION AND ACCESSIBILITY

HEAL is actively working to address the leading emissions source on the Wasatch Front—transportation. We are convening a working group to increase opportunities for public transportation use throughout Utah. We also recently joined the ASPIRE Research Center's Societal Impact Committee for equitable transportation electrification to help ensure these solutions reach low-income communities.

ATTENDEES LEARNING ABOUT HEAL UTAH'S CAMPAIGNS DURING OUR ANNUAL FALL PARTY. / RYLEEFOTOS



HEAL UTAH'S CLEAN AIR STICKER AT GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT

# OUR WORK UP ON CAPITOL HILL



Community lobbyists speaking with Representative Chew during the 2023 Legislative session.

HEAL Utah's legislative work is fundamental to our mission, as we collaborate year-round with lawmakers to develop policies that enhance air quality, promote clean energy, and protect communities from toxic and radioactive waste. Our engagement involves many stakeholders, including community members, advocates, organizations, and experts, ensuring a comprehensive approach to legislative initiatives. We champion positive legislation and actively oppose and prevent detrimental bills from progressing. One of our efforts is tracking legislation through our Bill Tracker. This crucial tool provides real-time updates on critical environmental legislation and is valued by experts, lawmakers, and community members.

Additionally, our Community Lobbying Program empowers individuals with insight into legislative processes, training on effective communication with lawmakers, and opportunities for direct engagement at the Capitol. Behind the scenes, we work tirelessly with stakeholders to advocate for a healthier Utah.

## ✓ Investing \$270,000 in Great Salt Lake Toxics Monitoring

Rep. Owens' funding request invested in monitoring systems surrounding the Great Salt Lake to collect data on airborne toxins from the newly exposed dry lakebed. HEAL brought researchers and legislators together to create this vital request and help it pass.

## ✓ Investing in E-Bus & Trax-based Air Quality Sensors

Sen. Escamilla's funding request ensured the maintenance and expansion of e-bus and Trax-based mobile air quality sensors across the Wasatch Front. HEAL strongly supported this initiative, especially as it aligns with our ongoing involvement in expanding the e-bus network. The request passed successfully.

## ✓ Preventing Mining in Parleys Canyon

HEAL Utah mobilized supporters and helped stop House Bill 527, "Mining operations amendments," by Rep. Stratton. This bill attempted to give mining operators a free license to mine regardless of local regulations throughout Utah. This bill would have had major detrimental implications for Salt Lake air quality, as it facilitated the creation of another gravel mine in Parleys Canyon.

# THE GOOD



## ✔ Supporting Renewable Energy in Utah

HEAL Utah successfully mobilized and worked with lawmakers to prevent setting an end date of 2034 for a large-scale renewable utility tax credit through House Bill 407, sponsored by Rep. Christofferson.

## ✔ Commercial Building Energy Conservation

HEAL Utah has been advocating for the adoption of the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code for several years. This year, we witnessed progress with the passage of certain provisions of this code through House Bill 532, sponsored by Rep. Mussleman, focusing specifically on commercial building codes. We will continue to work on passing similar legislation to cover both commercial and residential buildings in the coming years.

## ✔ Reducing Air Pollution

HEAL Utah advocated for the passage of multiple initiatives to reduce air pollution from major polluting sectors, including vehicles, industry, and buildings. We mobilized and helped pass a bill focused on inventorying, controlling, and setting standards for halogen emissions like bromine through House Bill 220.

## ✔ Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation in Schools

With the passage of House Bill 217, sponsored by Rep. Bennion, schools within the Great Salt Lake Basin can now use federal funds to receive grants to reduce energy and water usage through retrofits and updates. HEAL Utah's community lobbyists shared stories and benefits of water and energy conservation.

## ✔ Increased education and research to Save the Great Salt Lake

Through the passage of Senate Bill 92, sponsored by Senator Plumb, the state of Utah has created a special Great Salt Lake license plate that will direct funds towards Great Salt Lake research and education. HEAL Utah's community lobbyists helped advocate for and pass this initiative. Additionally, HEAL helped over 40 people sign up for this plate throughout the year.

## ✔ Extending and expanding wintertime research in the Uintah Basin

Community lobbyists helped successfully pass House Bill 319, sponsored by Rep. Chew, to expand an effective research project on wintertime pollution in the Uintah Basin.

## ✔ More water towards the Great Salt Lake

During the 2023 session, HEAL Utah actively advocated for policies to increase water flow to the Great Salt Lake. One of the victories from that work was through House Bill 272, sponsored by Rep. Owens, which expanded a turf buyback program to include new grants to install water-efficient landscaping.



# THE BAD

During the 2023 Legislative session, HEAL Utah actively worked to oppose and mobilize against harmful policies such as unfair taxes on electric vehicle charging stations, detrimental mining amendments, and state funding for litigation against federal air quality regulations. The following bills have passed and will negatively impact our environment and its people. HEAL continues to work with stakeholders to minimize the harm of these bills.

## **\$2 MILLION in Taxpayer Dollars to Rocky Mountain Powers' Legal Fight Against Reducing its Emissions.**

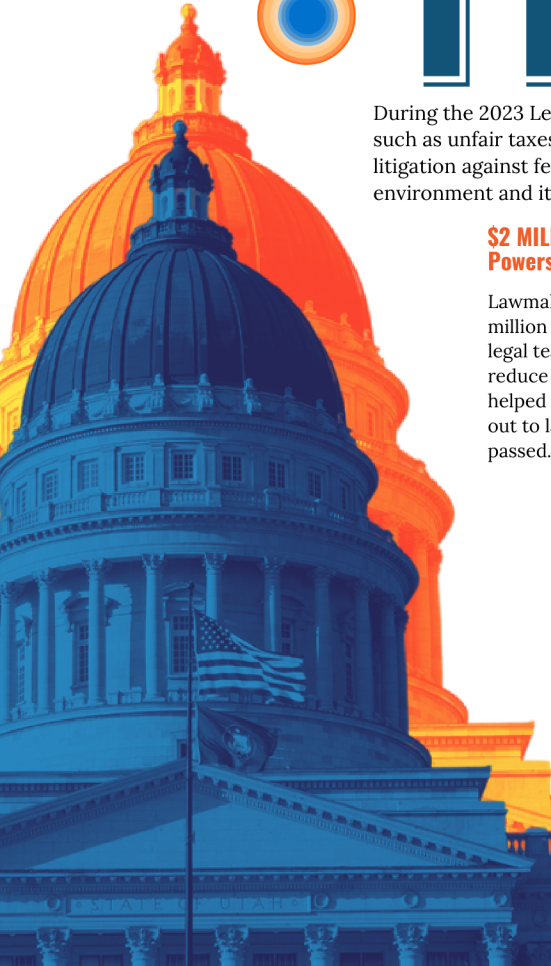
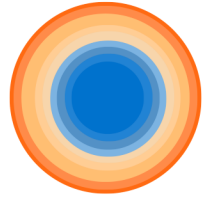
Lawmakers approved a funding request to funnel 2 million taxpayer dollars to Rocky Mountain Power's legal team to fight the EPA's ruling requiring them to reduce emissions from two coal plants. Our team helped 136 individuals submit comments and reach out to lawmakers in opposition, but unfortunately, it passed.

## **Challenging ESG Practices in Government Contracts**

Senate Bill 96 and Senate Bill 97, both sponsored by Sen. Wilson, represent legislative efforts to curb Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles in public contracting. SB 96 prevents government entities from contracting with companies based on their political or social stances, while SB 97 specifically targets companies that engage in boycotts. Despite opposition from HEAL Utah and other advocacy groups, both bills were passed, reflecting a growing national trend of anti-ESG legislation.

## **A Step Back for Electric Vehicle Equity**

Through the passage of House Bill 301, sponsored by Rep. Schultz, a now third additional electric vehicle tax was created on charging stations, unfairly taxing electric vehicles at a higher rate than gas vehicles. HEAL organized 270 individuals to submit public comments opposing this bill, but unfortunately, it still passed.



# Persevering for the Future

## Extending and Expanding Public Transportation to Reduce Air Pollution.

For the past few years, HEAL Utah has tirelessly worked to boost public transportation, aiming to cut down on car use and pollution. In 2023, although Todd Weiler's ambitious Statewide Zero-Fare Transit Pilot Program didn't make it through, we rallied over 120 public comments in support of it. We're not stopping there—our drive continues all year long!

## Investing in Electric Energy Storage

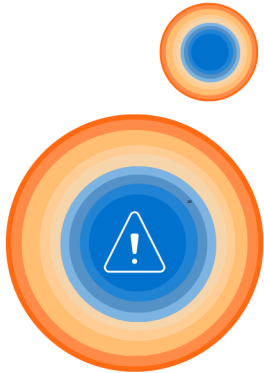
HEAL Utah recognizes the importance of investing in electric energy storage to enhance our state's renewable energy portfolio. In 2023, Sen. Blouin's bill, Senate Bill 249, Electric Energy Storage Amendments, which would have provided tax credits for businesses to install energy storage systems, did not pass. We are steadfast in our commitment to work with lawmakers to find effective solutions for increasing energy storage across Utah.

## Radon Testing and Awareness in Rural Utah.

Utah faces significant risks from radon exposure, and HEAL Utah is dedicated to passing legislation that promotes awareness, testing, and mitigation to safeguard our communities. In 2023, Rep. Bennion's proposal to boost radon testing in rural areas didn't secure funding. We remain committed to emphasizing the importance of this issue and will keep collaborating with lawmakers to support this initiative in the following years.

## Holding Polluters Accountable

Holding polluters accountable remains a top priority for HEAL Utah. Despite the passage of Sen. Winterton's Senate Bill 107, Oil and Gas Severance Tax Amendments in 2023, which allocates nearly \$20 million to support fossil fuel operations in Nine Mile Canyon, we successfully worked with our partners to amend some of its most harmful language. However, the project continues to receive funding. We will keep our vigilance high, fighting similar legislation and striving to prevent such private allocations of public funds.



# FY2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

HEAL is very grateful for the longstanding generosity of our donors and supporters. This year, as we went through a strategic planning, enhanced staffing, and growth process, we continued to make use of reserve funds from our successful 2021 capacity campaign.

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.

## Revenue

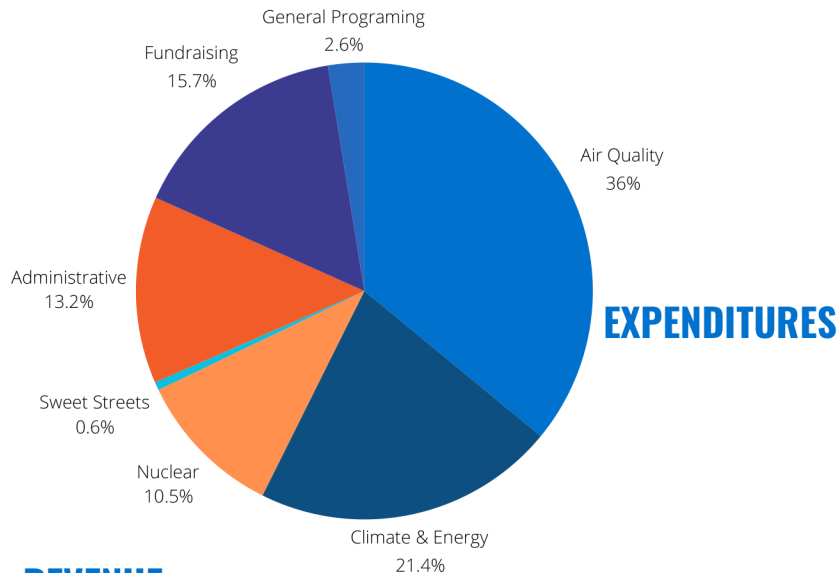
IN-KIND	\$21,831.79
INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$109,330.31
FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATE	\$354,484.97
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	\$148,242.91
EARNED REVENUE	\$15,389.35
CAPACITY CAMPAIGN FUNDS	\$216,697

**TOTAL \$865,976**

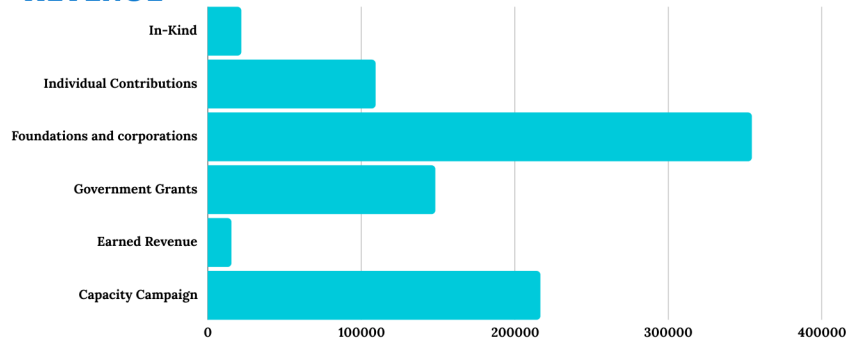
## Expenditures

ADMINISTRATIVE	\$114,681.19
FUNDRAISING	\$136,326.54
AIR QUALITY	\$311,451.76
TOXIC WASTE	\$91,066.36
GENERAL PROGRAMING	\$22,183.82
SWEET STREETS	\$5,012.52
CLIMATE + ENERGY	\$185,254.35

**TOTAL \$865,976**



## REVENUE



# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND DONORS



UServeUtah  
Utah Commission on Service & Volunteerism



Sentry Financial



CULTURAL VISION I  
HUMANITIES • ARTS • ENVIRONMENT



GEORGE S. AND DOLORES DORÉ ECCLES  
FOUNDATION



Lime



TIDES  
A Force for Social Good

Maine Beer  
Company



# OUR TEAM

## Staff

- **Lexi Tuddenham**, Executive Director
- **Melanie Hall**, Senior Policy Associate
- **Meisei Gonzalez**, Communications Director
- **Carmen ValDez**, Policy Associate
- **Kaile Akina**, Community Engagement Manager

## Interns

- **Ellery Ross**, Development Intern
- **Lauren Swidnicki**, Legislative Intern
- **Mariah Trujillo**, Legislative Intern
- **Naphtali Garcia Arana**, Community Outreach Intern

## Board of Directors

- **Evelyn Beguiristain**, Board Chair | Senior Associate, Brex Asset Management
- **Evangeline Burbidge**, Past Chair | Partner, Lewis & Llewellyn LLP
- **Cameron Hodson**, Treasurer | Audit Manager, Larson & Co
- **Christy Clay** | Professor of Ecology, Westminster College
- **Paul Zuckerman** | Teacher (retired)
- **Craig Buschmann** | Partner, Ramey & Schwaller LLP
- **Sophie Hayes** | Senior Staff Attorney, Western Resource Advocates
- **Dee Rowland** | Govt. Liaison and Director of the Peace & Justice Commission for the Utah Catholic Diocese (Retired)
- **Gabriela Portugal** | Director of Cancer Programs at Alliance Community Services
- **Briana Kobor** | Program Manager at Global Energy Regulatory Policy, Google
- **John R. Contreras** | Chair & Director Master of Public Health Program, Westminster College
- **Sophia Nicholas** | Deputy Director for the SLC Sustainability Department





# The End of Where it All Began

Before there was HEAL Utah, there was Families Against Incinerator Risk or FAIR. The acronym was deliberate. The prelude to turning the Great Basin Desert into an environmental sacrifice zone for toxic waste, including a massive chemical weapons incinerator, was a series of formal risk assessments that justified the damage. Those assessments were made by distant researchers using shoddy methods who had little knowledge of the downwind citizens whose health would be threatened.

Our mantra at that time was that risk is not a technical question to be answered by bureaucratic servants but a question of who is put at risk and for whose benefit. The distribution of rewards and liabilities is a political question that should be resolved by citizen stakeholders who decide what is fair, hence the name.

The name was changed to HEAL when the organization's efforts were turned toward stopping a massive high level nuclear waste dump. That acronym was also deliberate. We wanted to move beyond defense to proactive campaigns to heal wounds to the environment and public health. The creative policy work HEAL does today is the fulfillment of that vision.

Like its predecessor, HEAL aimed at empowering citizens to participate meaningfully in the public decisions that affect their health. Over and over we learned how the integrity of one's physical environment and the public health manifested by that environment were a measure of the vitality of one's civic environment.



PHOTO: FRED HAYES

**FAIR's Jason Groenewold: "We need more proof than just their word."**



It is hard to assess our success. We can't point to the downwind disaster that didn't happen because the Tooele nerve gas incinerator was upgraded under public pressure and closely monitored. We cannot see the massive reduction in chlorine effluent from Magcorp or the incinerators that were not built. I can take you to Skull Valley and point to empty ground where there is no nuclear dump.

Perhaps the best assessment is in the long view. I have watched HEAL evolve from a primarily hair-on-fire defensive organization to the proactive and cooperative campaigns of today. The urgency continues as climate chaos becomes apparent but HEAL has grown to become the respected, credible, and compelling organization it is today.

Our North Star remains: environmental justice and a commitment to democracy. Decisions that safeguard public health must be well informed, transparent, inclusive, and accountable. Citizens must be empowered to participate in meaningful ways. The destruction of chemical weapons has ended but the legacy of that era lives on in the work HEAL Utah does today

**-Chip Ward**

*Co-Founder of HEAL Utah*



**HEAL UTAH**  
HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT ALLIANCE OF UTAH

**Driving Change, Together — Shaping a  
Healthier, Safer Tomorrow for All.**



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