## International Mountain Day



Utahns Against Hunger Gina Cornia

## To increase access to food through advocacy, outreach and education.



## Food Insecurity in Utah















### What we do about hunger

#### **Emergency Food**

- There are over 100 primary emergency food pantries across the state.
- Limited food choices, especially for those with special dietary needs like diabetes, high blood pressure and other health concerns.
- Some pantries have better food, but still struggle to provide fresh, perishable food because of lack of infrastructure.

#### Federal Nutrition Programs

- Food Stamp Program/SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
- School Lunch (37% of Utah children receive lunch free or at reduced price)
- School Breakfast (Utah has the 51st worst participation in country)
- Summer Food (Utah has good participation, but there are very poor parts of the state with no programming, San Juan County- for example)

## What we should be doing more of about hunger

### A Plan of Action to End Hunger in America

- Create jobs, raise wages, increase opportunity and share prosperity.
- Improve government income support programs for struggling families.
- Strengthen federal nutrition programs, i.e: SNAP, & Child Nutrition Programs
- Target support to especially vulnerable populations.
- Increase participation in federal nutrition programs.
- Build political will.

Food Research and Action Center- www.frac.org

### Other actions:

- Making sure we have a healthy, robust food system.
  - Establishing food policy councils that are engaged in public policy on the local, state and national level.
  - Creating new markets and programs for small food/farmers producers.
- Working for a more equitable Farm Bill that creates more opportunities for small farmers and rewards practices that preserve land and fosters sustainability.
  - No Farmers No Food

# VOTE!

### Utahns Against Hunger

Gina Cornia

cornia@uah.org

801-328-2561