



The Armchair Advocate

Brought to you by the Coalition of Religious Communities 347 South 400 East
A Multi-Faith Response to Poverty Salt Lake City, UT 84111
March 2006 1.888.747.8482

Thank you for all your hard work!!!

Passage of the Hate Crimes Bill and the reduction in the sales tax on food is proof that our hard work is paying off.
Perseverance works!



Governor Hunstman signing the Hate Crimes Bill.



A crowd of supporters gathers around Rabbi Tracee Rosen at one of the many press conferences CORC had about removing the sales tax on food.

Mark Your Calendars!

CORC Annual Meeting

April 24

5:30 pm Dinner

6:00 pm Business Starts

Come join us for a free dinner and a great time!

Mike Mower from the Governor's Office will join us!

Location to be announced...

Issue Spotlight:

UPCOMING PROJECTS

Payday lending

This summer, we will continue the campaign to further regulate payday lenders. This means that we will be working with local cities and counties to create density restrictions, limiting the number of payday lenders based on population. We also will be working on writing legislation for the upcoming session and going to interim hearings. An exciting development in this area is the coming together of advocates with the military. There is now a point person in Colorado who is dedicated to working on these issues with us, and we will be working this summer to build this coalition.

Candidate Forums

This summer we will be organizing candidate forums around the Wasatch Front. We will be working to bring the candidates together, polling them on the economic justice issues on which we work, and educating community members on where the candidates stand on these issues.

Special Session - May 17

On May 17, Governor Huntsman will call a special session of the Utah State Legislature to work on income tax reform. The 45 day legislative session expired before the Senate and House could come to an agreement on what kind of income tax reform was appropriate. The legislature can only talk about things in special session that the Governor has scheduled. We are in the middle of a campaign to call the Governor's office at 538-1000 to ask that Medicaid dental and vision benefits be put on the agenda. So, spend two minutes and give the governor's office a call asking that these important human services be put on the agenda - the total cost is \$4.8 million and there is plenty of money in surplus to pay for these benefits. Need talking points? People need glasses to hold down a job and be able to be independent. With dental benefits, it is much less expensive to pay for prevention than emergency care.



Steering Committee



At the March CORC meeting, a new steering committee was elected! This fine group of people will be responsible for organizing annual meeting, the summer social and special classes on specific issues. They are: Glen Brown, Vera Eini, Roberta Lovell, Victor Saldivar and Art Sutherland. Thanks in advance for all your hard work for CORC!

Next CORC Meeting:

There will not be any monthly meetings in April because of Annual Meeting!

May 18
8:30 a.m. in Salt Lake City
Anderson Commons
734 East 200 South
Coffee and breakfast treats

May 18
11:45 a.m. in Ogden
Ogden United Church of Christ
3350 Harrison Blvd.
Drinks and dessert provided