



## **UCAIR Reports Air Quality Milestones and Names Clean Air Award Recipients at 6th Annual UCAIR Summit**

**SALT LAKE CITY**—May 13, 2021—At its sixth annual Utah Clean Air Partnership (UCAIR) Summit, Kim Frost, UCAIR’s executive director, announced progress toward improving Utah’s air quality under UCAIR’s three foundational pillars: education, partnering and funding.

In **Education**, research conducted following UCAIR’s most recent public education campaign demonstrated 72% of respondents reported being idle free and 77% reported lowering their home thermostat during the winter months to save emissions.

By **Partnering** with Boeing, Union Pacific Railroad and the Eccles Foundation in 2019, 1,000 EPA-certified gas cans were made available for Utahns to exchange for their old, leaky gas cans. It is estimated that as a result of this exchange, we eliminated the equivalent emissions of 108 cars per day over the five-year life span of the gas can. Another such exchange is planned for this summer.

Continued **Funding** through the UCAIR grants program provides organizations with the chance to make their innovative, emissions-reducing ideas a reality. More than \$150,000 in grants, funded almost exclusively through private donations, was awarded this past year and includes projects with the International Center for Appropriate and Sustainable Technology to fund retrofitting multi-family affordable housing units with lighting upgrades, energy-efficient appliances and on-site solar. Another grant will fund rebates to exchange gas lawn mowers and snow blowers for electric models through Utah Municipal Power. Since the UCAIR grants program began seven years ago, more than \$1.6 million has been awarded.

In his keynote address, Governor Spencer Cox said, “If [Utah’s] 3.3 million people do one thing each day it will have a significant impact in our state for the better.”

UCAIR also presented the annual Clean Air Awards. This year’s recipients include:

- Bryce Bird from Utah Division of Air Quality as Person of the Year
- Rocky Mountain Power as Business Partner of the Year
- Wasatch Front Regional Council as Community Partner of the Year

Additionally UCAIR honored former Governor Gary Herbert with the inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award. Eight years ago, Governor Herbert’s vision brought about the Utah Clean Air Partnership, whose mission is to educate and encourage Utahns to make individual efforts toward blue skies and better air.

### **About UCAIR**

UCAIR is a statewide clean air partnership created to make it easier for individuals, businesses and communities to make small changes to improve Utah’s air. Every small change adds to a collective bigger step toward better health, a better economy and better overall quality of life for all of us. Find out more about how you can make a difference by visiting [UCAIR.org](http://UCAIR.org).

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