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**Press Release**

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**Governor Huntsman Announces 2008 Baseline Trends Report and the Coalition  
Announces a Significant Organizational Change**

Governor Jon Huntsman, Jr., discussed highlights from the 2008 State of Utah Baseline report at the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Common Good Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City. Conducted jointly by Envision Utah and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, the Baseline shows growth trends and their impacts in Utah. Building on similar analyses completed in 1997 and 2003, the 2008 Baseline helps recalibrate our course in pursuit of the quality growth goals. By measuring our progress today, we can take more meaningful action to build a better tomorrow. The State of Utah 2008 Baseline shows clear progress in responding to growth issues, while confirming that significant challenges remain.

The Coalition for Utah's Future, which sponsors the luncheon and Envision Utah, also announced a significant organizational change.

The Coalition was founded in 1987. Ten years later, it created the Envision Utah project. Envision Utah is now being replicated in nearly 100 communities around the country. People throughout Utah are concerned that growth will negatively impact their quality of life.

Said Envision Utah Executive Director Alan Matheson, "As more communities seek Envision Utah's help in keeping Utah beautiful, prosperous and neighborly for future generations, we need to streamline our structure to respond even more effectively to the growing need for our services. To that end, we are consolidating the Coalition and Envision Utah into a single organization under the Envision Utah banner. This will make us a more nimble organization, strengthen the Envision Utah brand and engage community leaders more directly in projects that benefit our state. Importantly, this structural change will not end our foundational approach: bringing diverse community leaders together to find common ground for the common good."

Dr. Dinesh Patel, considered by many to be the father of biotechnology and pharmaceuticals in the Mountain West region, provided the keynote address and spoke on the future of personalized medicine.

At the luncheon, the Coalition honored the Huntsman Cancer Institute (or HCI) and Smith's Food & Drug Stores for their contributions to the common good of our community. The HCI is leading the fight against cancer and has already identified the genes that cause breast cancer,

colon cancer and other types of cancer. Smith's has strengthened more than 1300 non-profits, schools, churches and other organizations in the past year in Utah alone.

The Coalition created the Common Good Awards in 1996 to recognize organizations whose values and actions benefit the community as a whole. The Coalition's largest project, Envision Utah, has helped Utah communities protect Utah's quality of life, economic strength, and natural beauty for future generations.

Copies of the 2008 State of Utah Baseline report can be found at [www.envisionutah.org](http://www.envisionutah.org) under the "Research" section.