

MAR 30

2016

UNION UPDATE



Celebrating Women's History Month

Women Lead the Way

Shirley Chisholm (November 30, 1924-January 1, 2005) was an early education teacher from Brooklyn who, in 1968, became the first Black woman elected to the United States Congress. She went on in 1972 to become the first major party candidate for President of the United States and the first woman ever to run for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination.

the often-unsavory machinery and corruption of politics. And, though she was proud to break race and gender barriers, she saw her natural constituency as the whole of the American people.

of color, it is our responsibility to ensure the door never shuts for future generations. "Being the first is never easy; the path through sexism and racism is hard and often lonely," says Walker. "But women like Shirley Chisholm, who faced down the hatred with grace and resolve, can be an inspiration to all of us as we knock down barrier after barrier on our way to a world of true equality."

"We Americans are all fellow countrymen," Chisholm said. "We are all God's children, and a bit of each of us is as precious as the will of the most powerful general or corporate millionaire."



Yvonne R. Walker

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—Yvonne R. Walker
Local 1000 President



Shirley Chisholm

Chisholm was happy to be an outsider in Congress, pursuing the causes she had championed as a community activist, including daycare, education, school lunch programs and a guaranteed minimum annual income for families. She was a founder of the Congressional Black Caucus and the National Women's Political Caucus and served her district until 1983.

The tide of history is turned when people like Shirley Chisholm step forward and volunteer to lead the way. Putting yourself out there takes courage. It takes determination. It takes leadership.

"We are all God's children, and a bit of each of us is as precious as the will of the most powerful general or corporate millionaire."

—Shirley Chisholm

Chisholm was inspiring on many levels. With her schoolteacher manners and uncompromising morals, she was defiantly above

The leadership that Chisholm displayed in her life continues to resonate today. Yvonne R. Walker, the first woman and the first African American to be elected president of Local 1000, says looking to the example of women like Shirley Chisholm reminds us that once a door is opened for women and people

Resource Center

Monday-Friday
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
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Unit 15 Bargaining Team



Fifth in a series on our 9 Bargaining Units

Stronger Together

Bargaining with the state is set to begin on April 13th. Our bargaining team is preparing for negotiations, supported by Local 1000's Research, Field and Contract Departments, to gather input from members, organize worksite meetings and actions, set priorities, craft language and develop strategies to put pressure on the state to take the union's demands seriously.

The team is made up of elected members from each of the nine bargaining units Local 1000 represents. Issues that affect all represented employees such as pay, benefits and retirement are negotiated at the master table while each of the individual unit teams negotiate unit-specific issues.

Our bargaining team projects the power and voice of Local 1000 members. At 26 town halls, hundreds of worksite meetings and thousands of completed surveys, we heard the priorities of members, and that knowledge shapes contract proposals we'll take to the table on behalf of Unit 15 and all represented employees.

Unit 15: Allied Service Workers

Bargaining Unit 15's 5-person bargaining team represents civil service custodians responsible for cleaning state buildings, laundry workers, supervising cooks and food service workers in prisons and other state institutions. Unit 15 members have been building power in their worksite since the last contract was signed; they have stood up to management on a variety of contract enforcement issues and showed the state that this hard-working unit deserves respect.

Unit 15 has a strong advocate for their issues in their chair Maria Patterson, who says she looks forward to Unit 15 members participating in worksite actions like purpling-up and taking solidarity breaks during bargaining to put pressure on the state.

"Unit 15 is strong, and we know how to stand together to get our voices heard," says Patterson. "United, we'll get a great contract."



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—Maria Patterson
Chair, Bargaining Unit 15

| Unit 15 Bargaining Team |
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| Maria Patterson, Chair DGS |
| Daniel Cooper, Vice Chair CDCR |
| Garth Underwood, Alt. Vice Chair CDCR |
| Alfredo Cortez DGS |
| Elena Schneider DOE |
| Jose Magallon, Alt. CDCR |
| Keith Anderson, Alt. DGS |
| Thomas Vasquez, Alt. DGS |

To follow the work of Unit 15 and all contract negotiations, visit seiu1000.org/our-union-our-contract-our-future