In just a few short years, Cynthia Vo went from non-member, to member, to union steward, and is today the president of our District Labor Council 742, because, as a first-generation child of Vietnamese immigrants, she wanted to see "more people like me stepping up."

Cynthia, an eight-year veteran of state service, works in San Jose as a Student Services Coordinator at the Dept. of Rehabilitation. She provides support for disabled young adults who are entering the workplace. "We act as a career center helping a largely untouched group prepare for a productive working life."

After being involved in worksite actions, she was encouraged by coworkers to apply for LAPS - our Leadership Apprentice Program for Stewards, and after a comprehensive six-month training, began her work to engage her worksite. "I'm doing it one member at a time, asking them about their passions and ideas and harnessing their energy to build power." She was later elected as president of her District Labor Council and is even more active in providing leadership growth opportunities.

Asked about an Asian Pacific Islander who's inspired her growth as a labor leader, she points to fellow Local 1000 member Joel Chan, an API activist at his worksite in Oakland. "Joel's work to be highly visible and engaged with his members makes me want to do more," Vo said.

"I'm really impressed with my union's commitment to develop leaders. The LAPS program paved the way for me to succeed, and the support I received from union leaders was invaluable."
- Cynthia Vo
Dept. of Rehabilitation, San Jose
25 BARGAINING TOWN HALLS COMPLETED
OUR LAST TOWN HALL WENT VIRTUAL, SERVING OUT-OF-STATE MEMBERS

Our 25th and final bargaining Town Hall was held May 8, an online "virtual" event held for the hundreds of members we represent who work outside the state in cities like Chicago, New York and Houston. They’re the members of DLC 799, and like so many of our members who attended one of the two dozen events held across the state, they learned about the bargaining process and shared ideas on what’s important to win a contract that reflects our union values.

Now, the work of our bargaining team turns to reviewing every comment shared at Town Halls and survey responses provided by thousands of members in an effort to find common themes and issues as they build a strategy for upcoming negotiations.

"As we prepare for bargaining, the next step for our union is to continue building the strength necessary to win a great contract," said Local 1000 President Yvonne R. Walker.

Enjoy the benefits and protections of union membership

**Member vs Non-Member**

**Member**
- Legal representation
- Assistance in contractual & non-contractual related issues
- Discipline appeals to SPB
- Rejection on probation appeals to SPB
- Merit appeals to SPB
- AWOL appeals to CalHR
- Insurance & assistance services
- Affordable group rates & discounts
- Scholarship opportunities
- Purchasing Power
- Home loans
- Leadership & career development opportunities
- A voice and a vote on negotiating your contract

**Non-Member**
- You only receive assistance in contract related issues, such as grievances and arbitration
- One-time union representation provided if you have an initial investigatory interview
- No representation in discipline, rejection on probation, merit or AWOL appeals

Certain benefits are subject to eligibility requirements. Representation is subject to the policy file.

For more information, please call the Member Resource Center, 866.471.SEIU (7348) or visit seiu1000.org/resourcecenter

Become a member today: seiu1000.org/joinus