

SEP 2
2015

UNION UPDATE



“All of our members need to add their voice to this movement.

That’s the only way we are going to make a change.

It starts with Local 1000.”

—Teresa Hubbard, DLC 747 President

Members speak out on income inequality

Local 1000 activists join community leaders to fight for fair pay for all workers

Scores of Local 1000 members were joined by community activists from across the Sacramento region August 25 for a town hall addressing the growing wealth disparity in our economy and what working people can do to stand up for each other.

Held outdoors at the Sacramento union hall, the town hall gave member leaders and others affected by the income crisis a forum to speak on the very real personal, family and community consequences of low wage work. Hosted by Local 1000 President Yvonne R. Walker, the event also built support for raising the minimum wage in Sacramento, a proposal currently under consideration by the city’s Income Inequality Task Force, an advisory body to which Walker was appointed by Mayor Kevin Johnson.

Though the majority of Local 1000 members make more than \$15 an hour, the upper amount being considered by the task force, member activists expressed many reasons why everyone needs to worry about the shrinking salaries of those on the bottom of the pay scale.

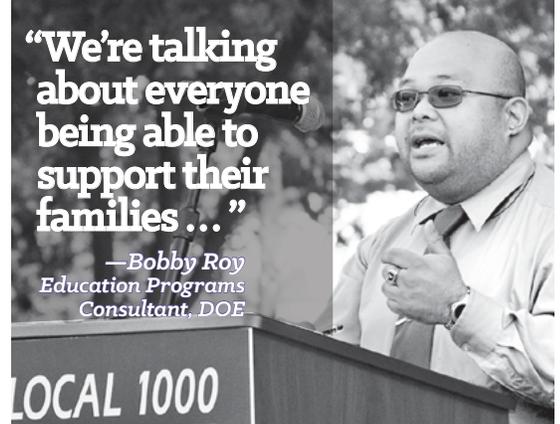
“Anything that impacts our community impacts all of us,” said Teresa Hubbard, a Program Technician for State Fund and DLC 747 president. “All of our members need to add their voice to this movement. That’s the only way we are going to make a change. It starts with Local 1000.”

Shireen Miles, an Education Programs Consultant for the Department of Education (DOE), agreed and pointed out that poverty pay pushes down

wages for everyone. “It directly affects us,” Miles said. “It’s the principle of lowest common denominator. If employers can get a workforce for less money, they will.”

“We’re talking about everyone being able to support their families ...”

*—Bobby Roy
Education Programs
Consultant, DOE*



Her colleague Bobby Roy, who is also an Education Programs Consultant for DOE, said union members have a moral obligation to stand up for low wage workers. “We’re talking about everyone being able to support their families and provide what they need,” he said. “That’s what we all would want; not just for ourselves but our neighbors, our families, all across America. That’s why it’s important that we stay involved.”

In her town hall address, President Walker reminded everyone that real economic justice begins with income equality; it doesn’t end there. “It’s not enough to just raise the wage,” she said. “We need affordable housing, healthy communities and affordable child care, too.”

Resource Center

Monday-Friday
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
866.471.SEIU (7348)

Website

seiu1000.org

Connect with Local 1000

Facebook
facebook.com/seiu1000

YouTube
youtube.com/seiu1000

Twitter
twitter.com/seiu1000



Legislators hear Local 1000 issues direct from members on Lobby Day

Making politics matter at the capitol

Local 1000 activists went to the Capitol on August 26 to lobby on behalf of our members.

Representing worksites and DLCs from across the state, the members brought our issues to legislators through face-to-face conversations. Making these personal connections ensures that the people who make laws understand the real consequences of their decisions on the working people of California.

The member-lobbyists received training in the morning and then traveled to the Capitol with an important goal: show lawmakers that politics matter to Local 1000 members.

Bargaining team preps for contract negotiations

Our 63-member Bargaining Unit Negotiating Council (BUNC) recently spent three days training intensively for upcoming contract negotiations. Local 1000's contract expires July 1, 2016 – just eleven months from now.

“Winning a good contract comes with the support of 95,000 members standing up for what they want.”

—**Margarita Maldonado**
Local 1000 vice president
for bargaining

Bargaining strategies and tactics were key topics, along with discussions about member engagement. The focus: honing the skills necessary to negotiate a fair contract that protects our hard-earned rights from previous contracts while improving our wages, working conditions and benefits.

In their own words:



“We can go back and report to our DLCs and say to people, ‘your passions were heard and you are supported by the people you elected.’”

—**Tisa Rodriguez**, Environmental Planner, CalTrans, DLC 704



“I bring the voice of over 95,000 state workers to share with legislators. It’s important to let them know how we feel so they know how to do their job.”

—**Regina Whitney**, Legal Secretary, DOJ, DLC 743



“It’s important for Local 1000 members to come out and have these conversations because any one of these bills could affect our jobs.”

—**Tammy Endozo**, Licensed Vocational Nurse, CDCR CCHS, DLC 701



“We come to the Capitol to work on legislation that affects our members and the community.”

—**Bruce Theel**, Teacher, High Desert State Prison, DLC 792



“It shows that politics matter, leadership matters and activism matters.”

—**Dalia Jaramillo**, Associate Right of Way Agent, CalTRANS, DLC 721



“We’re also focused on engaging our membership,” said Margarita Maldonado, Local 1000 vice president for bargaining. “Winning a good contract comes with the support of 95,000 members standing up for what they want.”

Plans are underway for a comprehensive statewide effort to listen to as many members as possible to learn their priorities for a new contract. Input from town halls and worksite meetings will provide valuable information to the bargaining team.