Members are fighting back

Demanding respect for our work and our families

Saying the state’s contract offer is “unacceptable,” our members all over the state are taking action to press for a contract we can all be proud of.

After negotiations reached a stalemate earlier this summer, Local 1000 members attended Town Halls up and down the state to voice their concern over the state’s offer, and their willingness to push for more. In response, the Local 1000 Strategy Team put together a robust strategic plan to move forward on the demand made by our members. At the end of August, our members brought the fight back to the worksites demanding CalHR to respect the important work we do for the State of California.

On Oct.10, our bargaining team will return to the table. Our members have demonstrated their support of the bargaining team each week by staying visible; showing solidarity and committing themselves to continuing the fight.

Our Worksite Action Team Leaders continue having conversations every day on the importance of standing together. Our members by the thousands are taking the pledge to participate in actions that will help us achieve improvements in wages and working conditions.

“The state needs to recognize that the members of Local 1000 are an important part of the state’s infrastructure and the state should understand the resolve that our members are showing to win a contract we can all be proud of.”

– Yvonne R. Walker, Local 1000 President

CALPERS HEALTH PLAN OPEN ENROLLMENT

The CalPERS health plan Open Enrollment period is underway and continues through Oct.7. Open Enrollment materials are now available online for our members to help them select the best plan for their families.

At calpers.ca.gov, you can access your health information in a confidential and secure manner. You can review your health information, your list of dependents and compare 2016 premiums to those for 2017.
Honoring the legacy of César Chávez and Dolores Huerta

Their leadership and legacy show us the way to achieve a strong contract today

Our fight today to improve the lives of working families and to achieve social and economic justice is a struggle with deep roots into every point of the cultural and ethnic compass. The working conditions we enjoy today—and endeavor to improve for ourselves and future generations—owe a deep debt to our brothers and sisters in the Latino labor community.

50 years ago this month, two great labor leaders, César Chávez and Dolores Huerta, helped to organize one of the most successful strikes in labor history, the Delano Grape Strike. Filipino farm workers, members of the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, walked off the job at table grape farms in the area to protest low pay and poor working conditions. Recognizing common goals, they reached out to Chávez and Huerta, co-founders of the National Farm Workers Association, to build a stronger coalition in their fight for dignity and respect.

Chávez led workers on a 300-mile march from Delano to Sacramento to raise awareness for their cause, and later, urged consumers and supermarket chains to boycott table grapes. America responded and showed their support by refraining from buying table grapes. After five years of nonviolent strikes, boycotts, marches and fasts, the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee reached a collective bargaining agreement with table grape growers, resulting in better pay, benefits and working conditions in 1970.

The United Farm Workers Union was formed in 1972, and just a year later, Chávez and Huerta led another successful boycott against grape growers that gave birth to the California Labor Relations Action of 1975, empowering farm workers to form unions and collectively bargain for better wages and working conditions. Then-governor Jerry Brown signed that bill into law, and just last week, signed another legislative milestone granting agricultural workers the same right to overtime pay as other Californians.

“Our fight for working families today is a testament to the heroic legacy of César Chávez and Dolores Huerta. They showed us how standing together for dignity and respect can pave the way for dignity and respect for the jobs we do and lives we lead.”

–Margarita Maldonado, Vice President for Bargaining