In six cities across the state, our members stood together with women across the nation to declare "the women's wave is here, and we're sweeping the world forward with us." The call rang out nationwide in the fight to embrace diversity, empower women, fight injustice, support immigration and to protect the environment.

Women’s Empowerment Committee Chair Tracie Kimbrough called out our member leaders who served as captains in each city: Ruth Kiker (Redding), Amy Valdez and Angela Hawkins (Riverside), Misty Del Rosario (L.A.), Shelia Byars and Crystal McCray (Sacramento), Dorrie Steadman (San Diego) and Renee LaTour (Fresno).

Theresa Taylor, Local 1000 member and a 20-year employee at Franchise Tax, has been elected as Vice President of the CalPERS Board of Administration. She is currently serving her second term on the board, representing the interests of state employees whose pension is managed by CalPERS.

Taylor helped lead members in the fight to reduce the health care premiums we pay in 2019; we stood up against "big insurance" and won. She's also part of statewide and national coalitions leveraging billions of dollars in pension funds and shareholder power to effect sweeping change in social, economic and environmental justice in corporate boardrooms across the nation.
Members in Los Angeles and Sacramento gathered with thousands more on Jan. 21 to honor the life and the principles of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Tonya Bealey, chair of our African-American Committee, led a group of engaged member activists to build large delegations in both cities, including a marching band that led our group in LA.

50 years after his death, we continue the fight for social and economic justice for all, encouraged by his leadership and vision. Today, as then, we believe that together we can overcome the obstacles we face in our journey to achieve the American Dream.

Having a strong, member-led union means we work within our communities to build a better future and to provide opportunities for the next generation. On Jan. 23, we opened the doors at our union hall for a free Cash for College workshop.

Member leader Brenda Ferguson organized the event, and long with trained volunteers, assisted high-school seniors in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), an important gateway to help college students on the path to a four-year degree.