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## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

Wednesday, Jan. 15 at 6:15 p.m.

Register at [afscmelocal88.org](http://afscmelocal88.org)

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 6:15 p.m.

Any member may attend as a non-voting visitor.

## Bargaining Update

During contract negotiations we need all hands on deck to join the Member Action Team (sign up at [afscmelocal88.org](http://afscmelocal88.org)). The MAT is composed of members, stewards, E-board members, and officers who provide a crucial communication link between the bargaining team and union members in the workplace. Updates will come from the bargaining sessions to MAT team members to share with union members

and to get feedback, suggestions and/ or concerns to share with the bargaining team. They also help plan and share workplace actions with the membership in order to support the bargaining team. These often start as wear green on a certain day (typically bargaining days), wear a sticker or button in support of the team, use a union background for your virtual or hybrid meetings, and can escalate to petition gathering, rallies, or other workplace actions. Please volunteer to make sure your workplace is represented!

## Mandatory Steward Training

Friday-Saturday, Jan. 24-25, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the AFSCME Hall, 525 NE Oregon Street, Room 520, Portland

Are you currently a steward? New, experienced or lead, please plan to attend the two-day steward training put on by your AFSCME Local 88 council reps. There will be

something for everyone, even our most experienced stewards. Brush up on the basics and delve into interesting cases and scenarios to build your knowledge and skills as a steward. Learn how to best support your colleagues, protect the contract, and build solidarity within your union. Stewards

attending during scheduled work time will receive Lost Time pay from Local 88. Food will be provided. **IMPORTANT:** If you need Lost Time, please fill out the Lost Time form on our website at [afscmelocal88.org](http://afscmelocal88.org). Can't make it on these days? Please sign up anyway — there's a spot for you to let us know. We'll add you to the list for a make up session.

## 2025 Local 88 Budget Adopted

Reviewed and unanimously approved at the Nov. 20, 2024, general membership meeting, the budget calls for an increase in expenditures compared to the prior year, much of that due to the expense of bargaining the new contract. Other notable changes: Convention spending will decrease due in large part to them being held in state. Communication expenses also are

higher due to the last budget leaving out our Northwest Labor Press annual subscription, which goes to every member home as a tool to connect Local 88 to the larger labor community. Non-political contributions also increased from both increases in things we support like Labor's Community Service Agency that provide support to our members in need and some new additions that support children in families experiencing homelessness and other causes supported by membership. We are hopeful this budget will be a more accurate representation of our spending and values as a union family.

## Membership Outreach Training

Join us Jan. 11, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Union Hall, 525 NE Oregon St., Portland

This training will teach participants skills to conduct effective membership conversations, focusing on how to engage potential members, address questions or concerns, and highlight the importance of union solidarity. We'll dive into the core elements of an organizing conversation—listening, connecting on shared

values, and guiding conversations toward union membership. By the end, you'll be equipped with practical techniques for inspiring others to join us in reaching our membership goals and strengthening Local 88. Food will be provided. If you are interested and want to contribute to us having the strongest union possible please sign up for the training at [afscmelocal88.org](http://afscmelocal88.org)

## Good Government Hotline

Since 2007, the Good Government Hotline has provided employees and community members with a way to report tips about fraud, waste, and abuse of position in county government. The hotline promotes fairness and honesty in government, safeguards county resources, and helps preserve the integrity of county government.

If you suspect fraud, waste or abuse at Multnomah County, contact the Good Government Hotline at [goodgovhotline.com](http://goodgovhotline.com)

or call 1-888-289-6839 (toll free). Intake specialists are available 24 hours a day and you can remain anonymous.

Whatever the method of reporting, the identity of reporters will remain confidential, and reporters can remain anonymous if they choose. In addition, the Good Government Hotline webpage has detailed information about how to file a report about fraud, waste, or abuse of position in county government.

## Member Profile: Robin Easton-Davis

Periodically we profile AFSCME Local 88 members who share aspects of their personal, work, and union life so you can learn their story. For this profile, we invite you to get to know Robin Easton-Davis, longtime county employee and union activist.



### Who are you and how did you get to where you are?

I was born and raised in Columbia, Missouri, a small college town with two private colleges and the major state university. To me, Columbia felt more like a "pass-through" town because of the large and constant transient population. I couldn't wait to pass through either, which I did a couple of times! I moved around a little: San Diego, California; a couple of years in St Louis; then the longest in Kansas City

(Missouri side!) before moving to Portland. Looking back, I was extremely fortunate to have grown up in a college town because I was able to be in community with diverse people from all over the world, who were from diverse cultures and who held diverse sociopolitical ideas and religious beliefs. I continue to try and seek these relationships out today. These relationships shape me

and expand my understanding of the interconnectedness of the root cause of peoples' oppression around the world! Only in true solidarity will we win! I work in Preschool for All as the Preschool Partnerships Equity Coordinator.

### What motivates you to be active in our Union? What does being a Union member mean to you?

All my life I have seen and experienced how workers are treated by employers who have unlimited/unchecked power over their workers. I also saw and learned that getting a union job was the only way to ensure worker power and dignity! My dad was going to graduate school when he and other Black workers were unfairly laid off from their non-union jobs. They were the first ones to be laid off, even though they had seniority over other white workers. They filed a discrimination lawsuit, but there

was no collective worker power behind them to support and sustain their fight! After that, my dad couldn't find work and, eventually, he had to drop out of grad school. I also worked too many non-represented bar and catering jobs throughout most of my adult life, and I know what it's like to be treated like, and often explicitly told, I was disposable. I learned through study and organizing that radical labor movements fought and died for most of the work rights we had and have. Learning about unions has taught me that you either must be willing to stand up and fight in solidarity for all worker rights or stand back and be willing to lose your own!

### What are you working on or what's coming up that you're looking forward to?

I'm a co-lead steward in DCHS and I'm on the executive board.

I'm a bargaining delegate and on the bargaining team, and I look forward to fighting for a better contract and more power for all members of our union!

### Anything advice you'd like to share?

Ask your teammates if they're union members, and tell them why they should if they aren't! Please join the Member Action Team (MAT)! Keep up on bargaining updates and share them with your team! Please come to the general membership meetings whenever possible! During our contract bargaining, wear green and show management that you're in solidarity with your union in all the ways you can!!!

If you are interested in sharing your story or if you know someone who would make an interesting profile, please fill out our Member Profile Form @ [bit.ly/3zYiU5q](http://bit.ly/3zYiU5q)