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UPCOMING MEETINGS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

Wednesday, March 19 at 6:15 p.m.
Register at afscmelocal88.org

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Wednesday, April 2 at 6:15 p.m.
Any member may attend as a non-voting visitor.



LOBBY DAY 2025 Connecting with state legislators

On Monday, Feb. 17, President's Day, about a dozen AFSCME Local 88 members went to the State Capitol building in Salem to participate in Oregon AFSCME's Lobby Day. Members from throughout the local joined with other public and non-profit workers from across the state to meet with Oregon state senators and representatives to discuss Oregon AFSCME's priorities for this legislative cycle. Workers talked to representatives and senators from both sides of the aisle about workplace safety, advocated for safer staffing levels, building the behavioral health workforce, and ensuring that both our members and the people we serve are given the tools they need to thrive. Members also emphasized that workers' rights need to be prioritized, expanded, and protected. One Local 88 member who attended put it well: "Even if I'm not a great speaker, showing up with hundreds of others to let our legislators know that AFSCME members are crucial to Oregonians is important. It empowers us as workers! Lawmakers are not untouchable people outside of our reach. We can and do have power to influence things and

improve our lives."

This was also an excellent opportunity for our members to connect with other public workers across the state to discuss and strategize ways to strengthen not only our union, but our entire state. One member stated, "I had people in my group from Tillamook and Eugene. They worked in all kinds of jobs: healthcare research, parks and rec, and corrections. It was incredible to hear how despite our differences, so many of our concerns were the same. I could relate to the stories shared by all these other members, and it reminded me of why our work and our union are so important."

When asked why they chose to attend Lobby Day, one member said, "I participated because getting legislators on our side and keeping them informed of what we're experiencing is critical to building worker power, especially given the current federal administration. Lobby Day reminded me why it's important for working folks to speak up to their representatives, to make their voices heard, and take back their power."

Faith Labor Breakfast

BY DYLAN THOMPSON

Rest, Resist, Rebuild was the motto in bringing together organized labor and faith-based communities as allies in social justice. Being raised by Lutheran ministers who became ministers to do social justice, there has never been a reality where faith and social justice did not coexist. If you look at the civil rights movement as an example, the front lines were members and leaders of churches, or the School of Americas where the primary arrests are nuns. Or the fact that sanctuary churches are the most sacred in our current political climate. It was a must for me to be in that room surrounded by so many passionate people with the same common goal, a goal described by fellow union member Robin Easton-Davis as "a unity and resistance against fascist oppression. Fascism has made it apparent that all of our struggles are interconnected, and we can't let fear lead us, silence us, or keep us from being in this struggle. We are the forces of victory!" Speakers and those sitting in solidarity together included Jobs for Justice, leaders of churches, union reps from ONA, from New Seasons, from amazing and different walks of life, cultures, religions, unions, and experiences in the world with keynote speaker organizer, activist, and pastor Keren Rodriguez from Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice. Fellow union member Imogen Fox shared being deeply moved by the experience stating, being "touched by and appreciative of the diverse range of speakers from different faiths and backgrounds and the shared message of hope and solidarity they spoke of. It was a powerful reminder for me that even in dark and cruel times of publicly endorsed oppression, our complacency, fatigue, and moral burn-out is exactly what our oppressors want from us. Our joy, victories, and solidarity can be just as powerful in resistance as our anger and grief in energizing us." Ultimately, the breakfast was a reminder that we all need to work together against oppression, to fight together in safety and solidarity. As member Dan Milimuka shared, being "strengthened in faith to know that believers of all kinds can unite under one roof, all together at the table both literally and symbolically. It means a lot to me to be able to share space with my fellow union supporters, just plain good people from wherever they may come— and to bear witness and say Amen!" And finally, I think we can all agree that we loved hearing a tiny glimpse into the tremendous work Lucinda Tate (late mother to our president Jackie Tate) did to contribute to the Faith Labor movement. To learn more about what is being done to support our most impacted communities during this time, visit Portland Jobs with Justice at jwjpgdx.org

News from our sub-locals Central City Concern (CCC 88-1) and Transition Projects (TPI 88-3)

Though the majority of our union is Multnomah County workers, we also are proud of our two sublocals from the non-profit sector who do incredible work in the community with some of our most vulnerable citizens! We are proud of these workers, their excellent work, and their fantastic organizing to grow their membership! Great job, siblings! If you are a TPI or

CCC Local 88 member and want to contribute to this newsletter, email President@afscmelocal88.org.

Here are just a few highlights of what our sub locals are up to:

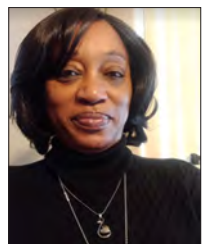
- CCC 88-1 doubled its bargaining unit size and is now a wall-to-wall unit, meaning all employees in represented classifications will be represented.
- CCC is ramping up to bargain their

contract expiring in September and will hold bargaining team elections in March.

- TPI 88-3 members ratified a new contract with increased protections, training, and a 14% wage increase in the first year, reaching a \$25 minimum wage by November 2026. Great job, team!
- Membership at TPI grew from 53% to 83% during bargaining. Wow!

Executive Board and Trustee Nominations/Election Results

We held nominations for both vacant E-board positions and a trustee position at our Feb. 19 general membership meeting. Since these positions were not contested, the members were elected by acclamation. Please welcome **Darlana Hale** as a new Executive Board member and **Marsha Hayes** as trustee #1. Also a steward in the Joint Office of Housing Services (JOHS), Darlana will be filling the rest of a term that ends later this year. Marsha, who works in DCS, will be filling the trustee position that ends in 2027. We appreciate these members being willing to take on leadership roles in our union!



Marsha Hayes