

**2023**  
**Annual Report**



April 24  
**Jes Shimek**  
 Lab Assistant, Anoka Ramsey Community College  
 Wage credits modification and reimbursement provision;  
 unemployment insurance aid establishment and appropriation





# NEW LEADERSHIP!

Longtime AFSCME Council 5 union member and leader **Bart Andersen** was appointed by the AFSCME Council 5 Executive Board to serve as Interim Executive Director and help lead our union with empowered staff and members from all across Minnesota!

## CHAIR OFFICERS

President Eric Hesse, Local 404  
 Vice-President Latonya Reeves, Local 552  
 Secretary Louis McNutt, Local 221  
 Treasurer Kathy Vake, Local 66

**Bart Andersen**, Interim Executive Director

### Executive Board

#### State

Dan Gorman, Local 600  
 Jessica Langhorst, Local 1092  
 Scuffy Paulson, Local 868  
 Mark Pozanc, Local 868  
 Jeff Vars, Local 915

#### County

Ronisha Buckner, Local 34  
 Aaron Gardner-Kocher, Local 34  
 Kenneth Garnier, Local 34  
 Willie Snyder, Local 707

#### City

Sarah Maxwell, Local 9

#### Private/Special District

Renae Pereira-Webb, Local 668

#### Schools, K-12

Marla Zappa, Local 56

#### University of Minnesota

Max Vast, Local 3800

#### District 1 - Northeast

Christina St. Germaine, Local 1092  
 Jolene Jannick, Local 66

#### District 2 - West

Jennifer Swanson, Local 2385

#### District 3 - South/Southeast

Patrick Pearce, Local 638

#### District 4 - Central

Adam Booth, Local 1539

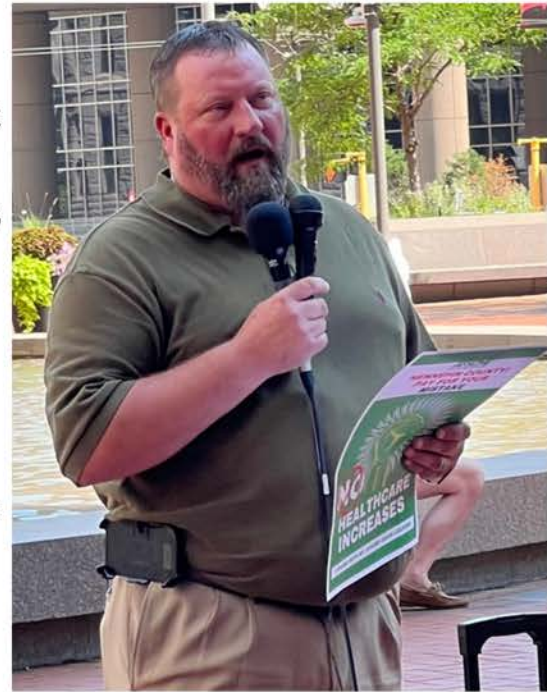
#### District 5 - East Metro

Dalia Baez, Local 722  
 Tamika Hannah, Local 34  
 Grace Jones, Local 4001  
 Tiffany Leff, Local 668

#### District 6 - West Metro

Grace Baltich, Local 34  
 Sametta Hill, Local 34  
 Martin Hoerth, Local 844  
 Samantha Sheppard, Local 977

In 1996, Andersen started working as a Bridge Worker in the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) and became a union member, leader, and President within AFSCME Local 2792, then helped merge Locals 1011 and 2792 into what is now Local 221 (Metro MnDOT). As a longtime union member, Bart fundamentally understands the power of rank-and-file members. For those who see the need for



change and in order to carry out those changes, **members need to feel empowered and get active in their workplaces, their local union, and Council 5 to improve our lives and that of our loved ones and neighbors.**

He said, "As Interim Executive Director, my goal is to ensure our members and staff are empowered to continue our critical work of representing our 43,000 members and by extension our loved ones and neighbors, as we set the standard for other employers across our state. I thank our staff for their hard work every single day that keeps our union operations running effectively and I appreciate the continued leadership of our members from the Council to the local union level. We all matter and we all have work to do to build our union and position us for the future."

I know that we're ready for this work, AFSCME family. Thank you for everything you do for our union and for the excellent public services you deliver every single day!

In solidarity,  
 Bart Andersen



## Historic Legislative Session

Our union members worked hard to elect pro-worker politicians in 2022, and OUR efforts paid off with a pro-worker trifecta! We secured major victories like banning private prisons, unemployment benefits for school workers, paid medical leave, and robust funding for public services. We proved what we can do when we elect pro-worker politicians who can deliver on funding for workers and the services they provide for Minnesota.

## TOGETHER, WE MADE A DIFFERENCE!

**The difference is stark: your vote matters and every election matters!**

Our pro-worker, pro-democracy trifecta did their job, we held them accountable to our shared values, and they delivered! On May 24, we celebrated with Gov. Walz as he signed laws for -

- Paid family and medical leave,
- Earned sick and safe time,
- Historic state agency and local government funding,
- BAN on private prisons!
- A strengthened PELRA and our right to union representation, collective bargaining,
- Massive funding for our pensions,
- Eliminated required legislative approval for state employee contracts, ensures full back-pay is paid in the event of a shut-down,
- Safe staffing: adds safe staffing ratios to the subjects of bargaining in the public sector,
- Legalized adult-use cannabis and expunged non-violent possession convictions,
- Historic child tax credit that will cut child poverty by 33%,
- Expanded access to unemployment insurance benefits for K-12 and Higher Ed workers,
- Closed tax loopholes that allowed corporations to evade paying taxes overseas,
- Free college,
- Funds the PERB Board to take ULP cases,
- Free breakfast and lunch for all K-12 students, and so much more!



Massive credit goes to our member storytellers who got what we needed and deserved across the finish line!

Many of these historic victories took decades to finalize, and we thank members who pushed and organized and fought to pass legislation that will positively impact every Minnesotan!

## ELECTIONS MATTER!



THEGUARDIAN.COM

**'The best state for workers': what are Minnesota's new labor laws?**

New legislation will mandate paid leave, prohibit non-compete clauses and bar captive a...



## Paid Family and Medical Leave

AFSCME Council 5 was present at the bill signing for **Paid Family and Medical Leave**. Once implemented, no worker will ever have to choose between their health, the health of their loved one or new child, and a paycheck. This legislation improves workers' economic security and community stability.

**WE MADE**  
~~Let's make~~  
**Paid Family & Medical Leave**  
**HAPPEN**



## K-12 and Higher Ed Unemployment Insurance Bill Passed

As a historic law went into effect, AFSCME K-12 and Higher Ed workers and legislators spoke out on changes to the state's Unemployment Insurance law that now allows hourly K-12 and higher ed workers access to unemployment benefits for the first time. **Minnesota became the first state in the country to permanently fix this 80-year exclusion. We did this!**



Our hourly school members won't have to worry about not having a safety net in case they cannot find employment in the summer months during their seasonal lay-off period. This ensures thousands of working people, and their loved ones, have economic security.



## Unions stand at the forefront of workers' rights.

These workers are among the lowest paid and most racially diverse and usually need a second job to make ends meet until the school year resumes in the fall. This shouldn't be the reality. Our dedicated workers care about the education of our kids and include workers such as bus drivers, food service, clerical workers, paraprofessionals, and others.



April 24  
**Jes Shimek**  
Lab Assistant, Anoka Ramsey Community College





## We Banned Private Prisons in Minnesota!

In the land of 10,000 lakes, our spirit of unity and justice has once again prevailed. Minnesota has taken a resounding step towards a more humane and equitable criminal justice system by banning private prisons, thanks to the tireless efforts of our AFSCME Council 5 union members and our community, labor, and elected allies. **This monumental achievement reaffirms that the immoral practice of private prisons has no place in our great state. Our union made this a reality!**

For decades, our dedicated correctional officers and secure facility staff, and many others, have stood as unwavering sentinels against the encroachment of private prisons in our state. Their resolute commitment to justice and their unwavering determination have finally borne fruit, as **Minnesota officially becomes a private prison-free state, leading the nation!**

It is a momentous occasion that demands our heartfelt applause and gratitude. **Take a bow, AFSCME family!**

THE  
WORKERS  
UNITED  
WILL  
NEVER  
BE  
DEFEATED



## AFSCME Council 5 Legislative Town Hall

On June 15, our members and retirees joined **Ethan Vogel, Ken Eken, Pat Benner, Max Hall, and Council 5 President Eric Hesse** to celebrate the victories we secured for working people, retirees, and our communities during this legislative session.

Council 5 Interim Executive Director Bart Andersen said, “The 2023 legislative session in Minnesota was historic for working people and retirees to live more dignified lives in economic and retirement security. These victories were only possible due to the enormous work of AFSCME members.”

During the 2022 session, AFSCME members knocked on doors, made phone calls, and talked to their co-workers, loved ones, and neighbors to elect pro-worker and pro-AFSCME candidates up and down the ballot. Then members held them accountable every step of the way with legislative testimony, a huge lobby day, weekly visits to the Capitol, and thousands of letters, phone calls, and conversations.



AFSCME.ORG  
**AFSCME members help deliver major wins for working Minnesotans**  
After helping pro-worker politicians in Minnesota, AFSCME members help deliver maj...



# AFSCME Staff the Front Lines Campaign



## AFSCME Hosts Major Hiring Event in Minneapolis

Our union is taking a proactive approach to address the high vacancy rate in public service jobs due to the retirement of baby boomers, the great resignation that occurred during the pandemic, and the need to improve wages. With a cross-country tour in major cities, our Council hosted a hiring event in Minneapolis on July 25 with state agencies to promote job opportunities available and highlight the need for workers to apply for public service jobs. We will expand this work. More to come!

At our press conference, Council 5 President Eric Hesse stated,

“We’re just trying to tell people about the great benefits the State provides and also being part of a strong union that will help protect you, to fight for your economic stability and continue to fight for better wages, better benefits, and better working conditions.”

“We have open positions ready to apply for right now and you can join our workforce and have excellent benefits, a union that protects your economic security, and the deep understanding that you’re contributing to the greater good of our society.” He added, “These workplaces are improved when we have more talented people joining our profession.”



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[mn.gov/mmb/careers](http://mn.gov/mmb/careers)

# A Good Union Job

can be yours!



[governmentjobs.com](http://governmentjobs.com)





## AFSCME Strong Leadership Conference

More than 150 enthusiastic union members gathered for our highly anticipated AFSCME Council 5 **AFSCME Strong Leadership Conference** that we held in April. This dynamic event brought together our members from various sectors, including state and local government, education, healthcare, and museums, to learn, share, and strategize for our new future of organizing.

The conference kicked off with a powerful opening by AFSCME Council 5 President **Eric Hesse** who emphasized the importance of standing together as a union and the incredible impact that collective bargaining and organizing can have on the lives of workers.

One of the highlights of the conference was the inspiring stories shared by more than a half dozen union members who successfully advocated for legislative victories and organized successful campaigns in their workplaces to sign up non-members to join our union.

**Rochelle Stoffel, St. Paul Public Schools**, shared her experience of **leading our successful campaign to win unemployment insurance benefits for hourly school staff**. She highlighted how she and her fellow union members utilized grassroots organizing, engaged in strategic mobilization efforts, and leveraged the support of the broader community to achieve their goals and end this 80-year exclusion in state law.



*Pictured: Deb Konechne (Local 34), Kenneth Garnier (Local 34), Scuffy Paulson (Local 868), Maia LeClair (Local 3173), and Rebekah Radiske (Local 306).*

The conference also featured a series of workshops and trainings on various topics, including organizing strategies, leadership development, Member Action Team training, legislative advocacy, and communications. Attendees had the opportunity to engage in interactive discussions, share best practices, and learn from experienced union leaders who have successfully navigated challenges and achieved victories in their respective fields.



In addition to the wealth of knowledge and skills gained through the workshops, attendees were also able to take advantage of the abundant resources provided by

AFSCME Council 5. From organizing support to communication tools, our union offers a wide range of resources to empower our members and locals and strengthen their collective bargaining power.

Interim Executive Director **Bart Andersen** said, "Our **AFSCME Strong Leadership Conference** was a success and was inclusive of more members and leaders across our union, and it's a testament to the dedication, resilience, and solidarity of our union members. Moving forward, we will continue to stand strong together, fight for our rights, and make positive changes in our workplaces and communities."

Our **AFSCME Strong Leadership Conference** showcased the collective power of union members and the incredible impact that organized labor can have on improving the lives of workers.

Attendees left the conference inspired and better equipped with the tools to continue advocating for their rights and building a strong and inclusive union that represents the interests of our members. We are building on this momentum!



*Pictured: Anne Thayer, Marcia Wog, Rochelle Stoffel, Mark Ponzac, Barb Laidlaw, Jeff Vars, and Joel Hoffman*

"It was empowering to see the collective power of our union in action and making a difference directly in our members' lives," Rochelle said. "Through solidarity and determination, we were able to secure a better future for ourselves and our families."

**Scuffy Paulson, MnDOT**, shared his success story of **signing up non-members to join our union**. He emphasized the importance of building relationships, engaging in meaningful conversations, and utilizing the resources and training provided by AFSCME Council 5 to effectively communicate the benefits of union membership. "It's not just about signing up members, but also about building a strong and inclusive union that represents the diverse needs and interests of all workers," Scuffy stated.



## New State Contract for 18,000 Workers

In the very early hours of June 22, our **State Multi-Unit Master Negotiations Team** reached a tentative agreement with the State of Minnesota representing 18,000 state employees. On July 17, our **Statewide Negotiations Delegates** voted to bring the TA to a vote by our membership with a recommendation to approve the agreement. This Tentative Agreement was voted on and **approved** by a significant margin of voting **members** in early August.

Our members were involved in the process every step of the way starting with multiple delegate assemblies to review and approve contract proposals by unit through final voting on the tentative agreement.

The master team, with delegate representation from units 2-7, fought to the end for every single dollar. No dollar was left on the table. The master team, unit delegates, and members who acted with letters, phone calls, and workplace support deserve so much credit for this contract.

### THANK YOU!

*Pictured below and right: AFSCME Council 5 State Multi-Unit Negotiations Team and members voting*



## AFSCME Sets Standard for Minimum Wage Across Minnesota and America

As reported by the *Star Tribune* on our contract, “Leaders at the American Federation for State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), which represents 18,000 State employees, said the \$20 minimum wage will set a standard that other employers across the country should follow.”

“The workers covered under this union contract Make Minnesota Happen, and without them, our State would cease to function,” said AFSCME Council 5. “With these investments outlined in the Tentative Agreement, our state can better recruit and retain these workers who are integral to the functioning of our state.”

AFSCME Council 5 Interim Executive Director **Bart Andersen** stated, “Due to the legislative reforms our union helped pass this session, this agreement, when voted on and approved by our members, will go into effect **WITHOUT a political ratification process at the Capitol** that our members have been unfairly subjected to for many decades. Now, under law, once an agreement is reached by both sides and our union approves the agreement then our contract would go into effect without politicians at the legislature potentially holding our union contract hostage. **Our union members should never be treated as pawns in a political chess match at the Capitol!**”



This sets the minimum wage standard that all employers should adopt. We will fight to make sure that ALL workers are treated fairly and equitably for their service.

**The Union Difference is clear and transformational and essential to a strong work-life balance. From paid time off to a better health plan, unions help you do more of what makes you, you. Join our movement for fairness and justice for all working people.**



## Science Museum of Minnesota Workers Win Unfair Labor Practice Case

The **Science Museum of Minnesota Workers Union (SMMWU)** leaders and members took swift action and filed an Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) after Science Museum of Minnesota management arbitrarily and cruelly decided to unjustly lay off our members. After presenting our case, including evidence and statements, the **National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) ruled in favor of SMMWU** and found that Science Museum management didn't fairly bargain our layoffs and furnish necessary financial information.

In August, Science Museum Workers rallied to

celebrate the return of their previously laid-off co-workers with the attendance of members, community allies, and media.

These workers organized with AFSCME Council 5 to have a stronger voice in their workplace and every step of the way, they honor their core beliefs and reasons for seeking a union. This victory opens the door for reinstatement of the laid-off workers and back pay for the union members who lost their jobs.

**Left:** SMMWU Rally in front of the Science Museum. **Below:** SMMWU Members reinstated to work.



## I AM STORY Podcast

In 1968, sanitation workers in Memphis took a stand against degrading and deadly working conditions. They declared a strike that would lead to a movement that would shake the nation. The **I AM STORY** podcast tells the story of the sanitation workers who dared to declare, **I AM A MAN**.

Relive history through first-hand accounts of those who experienced the strike. Its similarities to today's workers who organize and fight for safe working conditions, respect, and dignity in today's climate serve to highlight why workers must continue to stand up and be heard.

*"The issue isn't justice, the issue is the refusal of Memphis to be fair and honest in its dealings with its public servants who happen to be sanitation workers."*

**-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

UNION MEMBERS HAVE BETTER PAY, BENEFITS, JOB SECURITY AND MORE



THE UNION DIFFERENCE

NEW GALLUP POLL:

UNION APPROVAL IN AMERICA IS AT

71%



## Safe Haven Direct Action for Fairness

**AFSCME Local 3558** Safe Haven Workers in Duluth (right) reached a tentative agreement (TA) after a tough round of negotiations and fought hard every step of the way for each other. Their negotiations included members holding an informational picket to raise awareness to lift everyone including casual workers. Local 3558's power showed through in their solidarity and direct action.



## Hennepin County Health Insurance Rallies; Fighting Back!

**AFSCME Hennepin County Locals 34, 552, 1719, 2864, and 2938** (right) held multiple solidarity rallies and actions with their members to defend their insurance. The employer is telling employees to cover a 31% increase in insurance costs. Members rallied in August / September and sent thousands of letters to all Hennepin County Commissioners and Administrator. Engaged members stood up, addressed the cost errors by their employer, and raised awareness at all levels. Great job!



## Minnesota Judicial Branch, Guardian ad Litem Board Agreements

**AFSCME Local 3688** representing the Minnesota Judicial Branch and the Guardian ad Litem Board (right), reached strong agreements. Our AFSCME bargaining teams were clear from the beginning on their priorities and proposals, with a focus on wages and improved working conditions in service to our state. We are proud to represent the workers who ensure our courts and justice system function properly to protect the rights of every Minnesotan and protect and advocate for the best interests of children in our court system.



## St. Paul AFSCME Workers Info Picket

Workers who **Make St. Paul Happen** held a powerfully motivating informational picket outside of the city's *State of the City Address* to highlight the REAL issues our workers are facing in the city from chronic understaffing to uncompetitive wages, and more. Our members (right) called out city administration and told the truth of what is happening!





## Workers Are Standing Up for their Rights!

Workers all across Minnesota and America are clamoring to join a union to live better and more dignified lives for themselves and their loved ones. **Public approval of unions is at its highest in decades - 67%!**

In Minnesota, our union has experienced an increase in external organizing victories at the Science Museum of Minnesota, RHSC, Community Action Duluth, and internal organizing victories that all grow the strength of our union!

**We proudly welcome these new members to our AFSCME Council 5 family!**



## Science Museum of Minnesota

Workers at the Science Museum of Minnesota voted overwhelmingly to join together in a union with the AFSCME Council 5 family, calling for dignity and respect for the work they do.

In spite of a significant anti-union pressure campaign by the Science Museum of Minnesota management, these workers spoke decisively that they seek a voice in the workplace, fair pay for a day's work, dignified paid leave policies, and more. These workers will have the full support of our union as they continue their momentum and fight for dignity and respect as they continue to negotiate a first contract with the Science Museum of Minnesota that lifts everyone up.

## RHSC

Workers at RHSC, Inc., part of the Healthpartners health care system, chose to join our union and have even recently ratified a first contract that treats these workers with dignity and respect!

They knew that they needed to join together in a union to improve their workplace.

**Welcome to the AFSCME family!**

## Community Action Duluth



**Not yet a member?  
Scan this QR code and join us today!**

Workers at Community Action Duluth unanimously voted to join our union and have a powerful collective voice in their workplace with a union that has their back as they head into first contract negotiations!

These workers truly live the values and mission of their work every single day, both at work and outside of work, to eliminate poverty and help families and individuals in the Duluth area get connected to quality education and health care, gain employment, and participate in our communities.

We warmly welcome the workers at Community Action Duluth to our union family and we will have their back during their first contract negotiations.

Congratulations!





## New Contract for Unit 8!

After a lengthy negotiations process with the MN Department of Corrections and Minnesota Management and Budget, your **AFSCME Council 5 Corrections Negotiations Team** secured a historic contract for the approximately 2,000 corrections officers we proudly represent. We have heard from and listened to hundreds of our correctional officers and staff who said wages were critically important to them to not only help recruit new workers but to retain our current workforce. Our work is ongoing to bring the DOC back to being an employer of choice, but this contract will make a huge difference in our members' pocketbooks. Unit 8's contract highlights include:

- 5.5% Across-the-Board (ATB) wage increase retroactive all the way back to July 1, 2023;
- ADDITIONAL 4.5% ATB wage increase beginning July 1, 2024. We haven't seen these ATB wage increases in more than 30 years;
- ELIMINATED 2 wage steps from 14 down to 12 to move COs through the wage scale faster;
- ADDITIONAL \$2.75 increase to EACH wage step (effective January 1, 2024);
- DOUBLED the deferred compensation conversion from 40 hours to 80 hours;
- BETTER release from work language;
- SIGNIFICANT increase in shift differential pay from \$1.65 per hour, up to \$2.25 per hour for hours worked between 6 pm-6 am.

Unit 8 members voted to accept this agreement, and AFSCME Council 5 notified MMB of their contract's effective date. This is a historic change that our union secured this last legislative session where we successfully fought to REMOVE the politically-based contract ratification process at the Subcommittee on Employee Relations (SER). With our removal of this process, our union members won't be treated as political pawns at the Capitol in this regard, and will get your raises and benefits earlier than ever before. ***That's the Union Difference!***

## Hennepin Healthcare Workers Fight for a Fair Contract

Local 2474 HCMC Professional and Technical, Local 977 Hennepin Healthcare, and other union siblings who ***Make Hennepin Healthcare Happen*** held an informational picket calling for dignity, respect AND A FAIR CONTRACT!

Our siblings were joined in solidarity by many including Patrick Gage for County Commissioner, Minnesota Nurses, Hennepin County Association of Paramedics and EMTs, and Teamsters Local 120, with media coverage by KSTP-TV. ***WE'RE AFSCME!***



## Security Counselor Severely Injured; Our Response to Staff Assaults Everywhere

A **Local 1092** member from the **Minnesota Sex Offender Program in Moose Lake, MN** was assaulted by a client to the point of needing immediate emergency care and our union called out the significant increase in staff assaults across our workplaces, including secure and correctional facilities, and other workplaces!

Workers have experienced significant increases in assaults at work as well as harassment, intimidation, and safety concerns in their workplaces. This includes workers in prisons and libraries to hospitals. Our union will hold accountable any person who assaults or harasses our members. ***Safe Staffing Saves Lives!***

***"An injury to one is an injury to all!  
All workers have the undeniable right to be safe at work  
and go home safely. No exceptions!"***

-Interim Executive Director ***Bart Andersen***

## Safe Staffing Saves Lives!

**\$3,600 Raised for Injured Security Counselor**  
AFSCME members with a match from AFSCME Council 5 collected \$3,600 to help our brother in need. ***AFSCME Solidarity!***





## In Remembrance

### Michael Gau, Local 221

MN Department of Transportation-Metro



Photo Credit: Mike Gau Facebook

On August 31, we lost **Michael Gau**, an AFSCME **Local 221** member and **MnDOT Construction Inspector**, in a tragic workplace incident. Mike has been a union member of Local 221, Council 5 since 2009 and honorably worked every single day to

ensure Minnesotans travel safely in our communities. Mike volunteered for the Belle Plain Fire Department for 23 years in the capacity of Lieutenant. Mike received the **Belle Plaine Fire Department Firefighter of the Year Award** in 2005. He coached Little League for 23 years and was the President of the Pioneer Power Fire Hall Association.

Mike enjoyed fishing, hunting, riding his Harley, and serving the BPF. The biggest fan of the BP Dance Team, golfing, lake life, umpire, and softball. He was a loving husband, father and grandfather, and outdoor enthusiast. Mike had a very memorable laugh and will be greatly missed by all.

Michael has always put his community and served others first. We can all learn from his positive example.

Our AFSCME family extends our deepest condolences to Mike's family, friends, and co-workers and will honor his life and legacy by continuing our fight to make sure all job sites and workplaces are safe.

**Rest in Power, Mike.**

### Mary Austin, Local 3937

University of Minnesota - Twin Cities Campus



Photo Credit: Union Advocate

This year, we lost our union sister **Mary Austin**. Mary served as the President of **Local 3937, U of M Technical Employees** since 2015, and dedicated her service to the University community. Mary was a strong and powerful union leader on the Twin Cities campus and sister campuses around Minnesota. She started working at the U in 1990 as both a clerical (**Local 3800**) and technical (**Local 3837**) employee.

Mary also served as the treasurer, chief steward, clerical and technical employee contract negotiations teams, including as a co-chair. Mary has been on the strike line twice and a fighter until the very end.

Mary's activism extended to campus committees such as the *American Association of University Women*, the *Safety Committee*, and *Staff Day Planning*. She helped lead the Local's fight to protect and expand access to the Child Development Center. She was a founding member of the University's *Coalition for a Respectful U* and played a key role in addressing workplace bullying.

Many of us had the pleasure of seeing Mary at countless **Days on the Hill, conventions and actions**. Mary was committed to our union cause, a strong feminist and a passionate advocate for civil rights.

**Rest in Power, Mary.** We'll keep up the fight.



# AFSCME Strong Fun in the Sun



Above: AFSCME Locals 221, 3142, 2474, 499, 2181, 1426, and 695 held a May picnic to build solidarity and community.



Above and Left: **Locals 106 and 868** (Southeast MN MnDOT), **4001** (Statewide 2-year colleges), **945** (Winona State) and **1692** (DNR) hosted a celebration picnic in early August in Houston, MN for our union members and to sign up non-members to join our union family!



**Local 66's Labor Day event with U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar!**

Right: AFSCME **Ramsey Locals 8 and 151** hosted a Union Family BBQ at Battle Creek Park, St. Paul Saints Game, and summer happy hours at family-friendly St. Paul Tap for folks to meet and get union updates.





## AFSCME Council 5 Back at the Minnesota State Fair!



Our members talked to visitors about our **Staff the Frontlines** campaign, how to find jobs in public service, and the benefits of a good union job!

We were centrally located on the **MN AFL-CIO Labor Pavilion**. Our visitors included **U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar, Attorney General Keith Ellison, Senator Sandy Pappas, U.S. Representative Ilhan Omar**, and our very own union members from **ALL ACROSS MINNESOTA**.

Our members and retirees stopped by to say hello and pick up some swag - and they were **THRILLED** we were back at the State Fair!

A heartfelt **THANK YOU** to our **volunteers**: Allie Mitchem, Becky DeGroot, Christine St. Germaine, Claudia Velasco, Colin Dunn, David Palm, Dawn Flores, Deb Knutson, Diana Holmes, Erin Haroldson, Fabiola Widing, Jennifer Guertin, Jennings Mergenthal, Jessica Langhorst, Kenneth Garnier, Logan O'Neil, Louis McNutt, Linda Oeltjenbruns, Madison Vang, Maia McClair, Mari Lasota, Max Hall, Paul Gammel, Paul McDonough, Quitina Cook, Ray Langhorst, Sara Franck, Sarah Lukowski, Tim Blase, Tristan Langhorst, Urban Landreman, Willie Snyder, and others!

Check our Facebook page for our visitors. **You** could be here next year!





# WE ALL BELONG!

Workers like you make our union great! When you join AFSCME, you gain the right to offer input, vote on your contract, run for union office, vote for union officers, and live a better life.

And with your active participation, we will continue to organize more workers to build power in our workplaces, communities, at the ballot box, and at the bargaining table.

GENDER IDENTITIES AND EXPRESSIONS  
ZIP CODES  
SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS  
POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS  
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AGES  
RACES  
RELIGIONS  
IMMIGRATION STATUSES  
CAREERS  
ABILITIES



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