

SEBAC Leaders Meet with Lamont Administration Over Short Staffing Crisis

While short staffing seems to have always been a problem inside state government, over the last few years, the impacts of attrition and the 'silver tsunami' have pushed the Connecticut state workforce to a short staffing crisis.

Over the past 20 years, we have seen over a 20% drop in the number of state workers, but just since the beginning of 2022, we've lost over 4,000 additional workers. These numbers represent state workers overworked and unable to accomplish the level of service they have always strived for. And these numbers represent reduced opportunities to lift workers, particularly black and brown workers, into the middle class. These numbers represent Connecticut residents losing out on quality and affordable public services.

Over the past several weeks, we have been collecting examples of what short staffing has meant to CSEA members and the public they serve. We've heard from members working at DMHAS who

have witnessed co-workers being hospitalized following interactions with patients where not enough staff were available.

We've heard from DOT members about seeing higher fatalities on our highways without enough staff to research, design and implement safety programs.

In the DOC, members report that staffing compliments are reduced and that exhausted workers are being mandated to work extra shifts. As a result, the situation in DOC facilities has become more dangerous with increased injuries and a greater risk for serious incidents.

In DEEP, members are reporting contaminated sites remaining unattended for prolonged periods of time leading to a spread to bodies of water, including drinking water sources.

In the Division of Criminal Justice, members are reporting that those

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Do You Contribute to the Political Action Committee?

Our union is always focused on winning better wages, benefits and working conditions for members. But having a pro-worker state legislature and a federal delegation is critical to our ability to pass legislation and a state budget that positively impacts CSEA members. Political decisions that affect us are being made every day by local, state, and federal governments, and our union must have a voice in those decisions.

That's why CSEA members voluntarily contribute to the CSEA PAC and SEIU COPE. This is our special political action fund, and it's separate from union dues. We use PAC to ensure that the candidates who support our members' issues are elected to office. PAC gives us the power to hold individual politicians accountable—to throw out bad politi-

cians on Election Day, and replace them with leaders who will support CSEA members.

We're using our union's political strength to improve members' lives by holding politicians accountable when they don't share our priorities. Decision makers need to respect our power to either support or oppose them on Election Day, and this is why so many of your co-workers already contribute to PAC.

Over the next several weeks members may receive a call from CSEA asking you to contribute to the CSEA PAC and SEIU COPE. You can sign up by scanning the QR code below. Contact your steward, chapter leaders and/or union representative with any questions about the PAC/COPE program.



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Welcoming the New Childcare Council Leaders

This past June 25th, we had our CSEA Childcare Elections, where new leadership was elected by our members. Please help us congratulate each of them and give them a warm welcome!

Our new leadership team's contact information can be found on page 7, it has also been emailed and is on our website at CSEA-CT.com.

We are at once delighted and disheartened to announce that Queen Freeloove, former president of the childcare union, is retiring but pleased that she will still be part of our leadership team.

Bienvenida al Nuevo Consejo de Cuidado Infantil Líderes

Este pasado Junio 25, tuvimos nuestras Elecciones de Cuidado Infantil de CSEA, done nuevo liderazgo fue electo por usted. Por favor ayudenos a felicitar a cada una de ellas. ya darles una bienvenida calurosa!

La información de contacto de nuestro nuevo equipo de liderazgo se puede encontrar en la página 7, también se envió por correo electrónico y se encuentra en nuestro sitio web en CSEA-CT.com.

Además, estamos encantados y desalentados al mismo tiempo de anunciar que Queen Freeloove, ex presidenta del sindicato de cuidado infantil, se jubila, pero agradecidos que siga formando parte de nuestro equipo de liderazgo.

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Visit our union's website at: **CSEA-CT.com**

Postmaster: Please forward address changes to:
CSEA, 760 CAPITOL AVE., HARTFORD, CT 06106



**Meetings
And News**

MEETING DATES

The Council 400 Delegates Meeting is always held on the third Thursday of the month.

The September Delegates Meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting on Thursday, September 15th at 10am at the CSEA Union Hall

Chapter 401 (Hartford area):
Thursday, September 1st - 1pm
CSEA Union Hall
760 Capitol Ave. Hartford
Patrice Peterson: (860) 523-1480

Chapter 402 (Danbury area):
Wednesday, September 14th - 10am
United Methodist Church
5 Clapboard Ridge Rd. Danbury
Linda Albanese: (860) 354-6965

Chapter 403 (Norwich area):
Tuesday, September 13th - 1:30pm
Rose City Senior Center
8 Mahan Drive., Norwich
Carol Burgess: (860) 859-3641

Chapter 404 (Waterbury area):
Tuesday, September 13th - 10am
Trinity Orthodox Church
937 Chase Parkway, Waterbury
John Quinn: (203) 804-0189

Chapter 405 (New Haven area):
Thursday, September 8th - 12pm
Hamden Town Hall (3rd Floor)
2750 Dixwell Ave, Hamden
Ron Osokow: (203) 671-7685

Chapter 406 (Middletown area):
Tuesday, September 13th - 1pm
American Legion Post 75
58 Bernie O'Rourke Dr., Middletown
Joe Formica: (860) 347-4532

Chapter 407 (Bridgeport area):
Wednesday, September 21st - 1pm
Location TBD
Kevin Sullivan: (860) 951-6614 x 118

Chapter 408 (Willimantic area):
Thursday, September 8th - 12:30pm
Mansfield Senior Center
303 Maple Ave. Mansfield
Doug Racicot: (860) 234-2537

Chapter 409 (State University Professors)
Friday, August 5th - 10am
Friday, September 16th - 10am
CSEA Union Hall & via Zoom
760 Capitol Ave., Hartford
Dave Walsh: (860) 684-4773

Chapter 410 (Windsor Locks area):
Monday, September 12th - 1pm
Suffield Senior Center
145 Bridge St., Suffield
Amelia Smith: (860) 687-1848

Chapter 411 (Rocky Hill area):
Thursday, September 15th - 12pm
CSEA Union Hall
760 Capitol Ave., Hartford
Sebastian Puglisi: (860) 529-8336

Chapter 412 (Putnam area):
Tuesday, September 20th - 1:30pm
Putnam Town Hall
200 School St., Putnam
Don Gladding: (860) 933-9998

Chapter 414 (Torrington area):
Monday, September 19th - 10am
Five Point Extension Building
852 University Drive, Torrington
Karen Pineman: (860) 354-6727

Chapter 415 (Manchester area):
Monday, September 26th - 1pm
Elks Lodge
30 Bissell St., Manchester, CT
Stuart Clark: (860) 205-0657 (c)
(860) 454-4818 (h)

Chapter 416 (New London area):
Tuesday, September 13th - 12pm
Waterford Public Library
49 Rope Ferry Rd., Waterford
John Knaff (860) 857-4244

Chapter 417 (Plainville area):
Wednesday, September 14th - 1pm
Plainville Public Library - Auditorium
56 East Main St., Plainville
Mark Kirschner: (860) 882-2717

Chapter 418 (Community College Retirees):
Tuesday, September 6th - 10am
4C's Union Hall
907 Wethersfield Ave, Hartford
Bill Searle (860) 745-3692

Chapter 425 (Clearwater, FL area):
Philippe Park - Shelter #7
2525 Phillippe Pkwy, Safety Harbor, FL 34695
Wednesday, September 14th - 11am
Cookout with Hamburgers and Hotdogs, Event is FREE for members and their guests: you may bring a side dish or dessert to share
RSVP to Ursula Bracker at (727) 848-0089

Aetna Transition Update for State Medicare Advantage Program

On June 1st, Governor Lamont and members of the Healthcare Cost Containment Committee, which is a joint labor-management committee tasked with overseeing the state's health plan, announced the results of the Request for Proposals (RFP) process to decide the carrier for the Medicare Advantage program for State of Connecticut retirees 65 years and older.

Aetna Inc. has been chosen to be the new carrier and will replace UnitedHealthcare as the administrator of the State's Group Medicare Advantage program starting on January 1, 2023.

CSEA is working tirelessly to collect all of the information you will need in order to ensure a smooth transition.

We are working closely with Aetna to optimize your experience and make sure that every question you have is answered before the January 1, 2023 effective date. We expect to have updates in the coming weeks about a dedicated call center and website to clarify your transition questions as well as the schedule for member education meetings (both virtual and live throughout Connecticut and Florida).

Important numbers to have on hand:

- Retirement Division Payroll: 860-702-3528
- Retirement Division Life Insurance: 860-702-3537
- Retirement Division Health Insurance: 860-702-3533
- Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield: 1-800-922-2232
- CSEA Retiree Organizer, Kevin Sullivan: 860-951-6614 x118
- UnitedHealthcare Dedicated Hearing Aid line: 1-855-523-8355
- UnitedHealthcare: 1-888-803-9217
- Caremark: 1-800-318-2572
- Cigna: 1-800-244-6224
- HEP Care Management Solutions: 1-877-687-1448 or visit them at their portal: <https://www.connect2yourhealth.com/ParticipantPortal/Default.aspx>



Celebrate Your Freedom From Paper
Enroll in Free eStatements Today!
And Earn a \$10 Bonus!



eStatements are secure, easy and FREE. And we will reward you a \$10 bonus just by being enrolled in eStatements this year.

To enroll in eStatements, first enroll in CSe-Banking, our online banking service, and then click on eStatements.

**One \$10 Bonus per primary number. IRAs are excluded. Applies to current and new eStatement enrollees. Funds will be deposited into the share account of the account holder within 31 days of enrolling. Once enrolled in eStatements, paper statements will no longer be mailed. Promotion ends 12/31/2022.*

Visit Our Website: www.CSECreditUnion.com

Find all the essential information about the products and services we have to offer. You can even print a loan application online! Best of all, it's accessible from your personal computer 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
www.CSECreditUnion.com

Dividend Rates - Second Quarter 2022

	Dividend Rate	Annual Percentage Yield
REGULAR SHARES	0.75%	0.75%
SHARE DRAFTS (Checking)	0.25%	0.25%
CLUB ACCOUNTS	0.35%	0.35%

Minimum opening balance \$25.00. The annual percentage yield is accurate as of the last dividend declaration date. Rate may change after the account is opened. Fees or other conditions may reduce the earnings on the account.

7 Full Service Offices To Serve You

NORWICH Uncas on Thames 401 West Thames St. Norwich, CT 06306 (860) 889-7378	HARTFORD 84 Wadsworth St. Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 522-5388 (Savings) (860) 522-7147 (Loans)	NEW HAVEN 1666 Litchfield Turnpike Woodbridge, CT 06525 (203) 397-2949
MIDDLETOWN Connecticut Valley Hospital P.O. Box 2485 Middletown, CT 06457 (860) 347-0479	STORRS 1244 Storrs Rd. Storrs, CT 06268 (860) 429-9306	SOUTHBURY Southbury Training School P.O. Box 644 Southbury, CT 06488 (203) 267-7610
		NEWINGTON O'Neil Plaza 2434 Berlin Turnpike Newington, CT 06111 (860) 667-7668

Hours: Main Office: Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm Branches: Mon-Fri, 9:30am-4pm
 Drive-Up Teller (Hartford Only): Mon-Fri, 8:30am-4pm; Paydays Open Until 5pm

**Gone too Soon:
CSEA Members Who Have Passed On**

The Office of the State Comptroller has provided CSEA with the following members that have recently passed away. Our condolences are with their friends, family and loved ones.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Angelini, Dennis | Hunt, Samuel |
| Anger, Joyce | Hunter, Judson |
| Anselment, Raymond | Jackson, Thomas |
| Bacchicocchi, James | Jimenez, Elizabeth |
| Barnes, Jeffrey | Kerensky, Peter |
| Barrett, Mackenzie | Kevalas, Kathleen |
| Bragg, Jeffrey | Laperle, Vivian |
| Bunting, William | Mariani, Charlotte |
| Christiano, Edward | Mayer, Constance |
| Connolley, Sophie | Mccrillis, Fred |
| Daer, Nancy | Migliorati, Armando |
| Danek, Steve | Misluk, David |
| Dawson, Ann | Neales, Rosella |
| Debarros, Minnie | Rahmati, Ali |
| Decorleto, Andrew | Savonis, John |
| Douglas, Priscilla | Simpson, Richard |
| Dow, Nathalie | Stewart, Deborah |
| Feldman, Herbert | Stolfi, David |
| Fulcher, Audrey | Thompson, Mary |
| Giedd, Ronald | Wachsman, Eileen |
| Harrington, William | Wilson, John |
| Hnilicka, Charles | Wisniewsky, Walter |
| Hoburg, Robert | Workman, Robert |
| Hogan, Morgaine | Wyskiel, Walter |

US CONGRESS WORKERS ARE UNIONIZING

The staff of the following offices have taken the first steps to organize a congressional staffer union: Rep. Cori Bush, Rep. Chuy Garcia, Rep. Ro Khanna, Rep. Andy Levin, Rep. Ted Lieu, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Rep. Ilhan Omar, and Rep. Melanie Stansbury.

CSEA NEWS

*The Voice of Connecticut's
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CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION

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- | | |
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| Milagros Brown |Secretary/Treasurer |
| David Glidden |Executive Director |
| Drew E. Stoner |Communication Specialist |
| Jason P. Webster |Graphic/ Technical Assistance |

INSERTION DEADLINE: 1st of prior month.

MAILING ADDRESS: CSEA/SEIU Local 2001, 760 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106;
 PHONES: (860) 951-6614, toll-free: (800) 894-9479, FAX: (860) 951-3526; INTERNET:
www.csea-ct.com.

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News from Council 400 Chapter 414

Chapter 414 had a wonderful June Luncheon on June 20th catered by Freunds Farm. There was a robust attendance of many members that have been attending regularly for years, along with some newly

retired members! Bernadette Conway was lucky to be their speaker and enjoy their delicious luncheon.

Chapter President Karen Pineman did a great job running the meeting as always, along with officers George Weston, Deb Eddy and Peaches Miller. Karen has been the chapter president for many years and has served in many roles for Council 400. We don't know what we would do without her loyal dedication and service to

the Union.

We want to wish a very special Happy Birthday to Chapter 414 member Elsie Manes who turned 100 in May!

We also want to give a special hello to Bill Barber, who has served many roles for Chapter 414 throughout the years who could not be at the luncheon but is doing well. Bill worked at the Extension Center, where the meetings are still held today. He is very much missed at the meetings!

Are you connected with CSEA?

@CSEA2001

@CSEA_CT

@cseaseiulocal2001

CSEA-CT.com

Is your Spouse a Member of Council 400?

The size of our membership is an important way that CSEA Council 400 demonstrates our power, our voice and our strength—and for 2022 we've set out to drastically increase our membership numbers ahead of the gubernatorial election and legislative threats.

Spouses are a large part of our membership, and it's no secret why—they are affected by health insurance and pension benefit changes and are often slated for survivor benefits.

By becoming a member, your spouse will ensure they will continue to receive the CSEA News and important notifications regarding the benefits you worked hard to secure if you were to pass away. They will also be eligible for SEIU Member Benefits like travel rewards and reduced auto and home insurance rates.

But most importantly, by becoming a member, they will help to increase our membership numbers so that CSEA Council 400 will have an even larger voice against our opponents who want to slash benefits—your benefits, their benefits.

If your spouse isn't yet a member, contact our Retiree Organizer, Kevin Sullivan at Ksullivan@csea760.com or 860-951-6614 x 118 to get them signed up!

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL

COUNCIL 400 SUMMER Picnic

WEDNESDAY AUG 31ST 11A-4P

FARMINGTON CLUB
162 Town Farm Road Farmington, CT 06032
Use Entrance C - Event Side
(3rd Right when using Rt. 4)

RSVP By Wed. August 17th

BUFFET FROM 12-2:30PM
CASH BAR, SODA, WATER, JUICE, COFFEE & TEA SERVED ALL DAY

\$15 for Members
\$25 for Non-Member Spouses
\$38 for Guests

QUESTIONS? Call Stu Clark (860-205-0657) or Bill Dorn (860-840-1688)

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS COUPON

Council 400 Annual Outing: Wednesday, August 31, 2022
Reservation Deadline: Wednesday, August 17, 2022

MEMBER: _____ SPOUSE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ CHAPTER: _____

NUMBER OF GUESTS: _____ GUEST NAMES: _____

\$ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

Mail this completed coupon with a check made out to "CSEA Council 400", to CSEA at 760 Capitol Ave. Hartford, CT 06106
You need only to present your name at the entrance to obtain access to the Farmington Club.

SEBAC Leaders Meet with Lamont Administration Over Short Staffing Crisis

accused of crimes are not getting their day in court in a timely manner and cases are not getting the attention they so desperately need.

These are only a small sampling of the stories we've heard. We know there are many more stories out there.

CSEA has been working with the rest of the SEBAC coalition to address this short staffing

crisis across state agencies. This work includes the SEBAC leaders meeting with the Lamont Administration to share some of these short staffing stories and our recommendations to address them head-on.

Together, through the union, members are sounding the alarm bells and demanding aggressive measures to rectify the understaffing crisis.

Please keep informed with our fight and share your short staffing story by visiting our website CSEA-CT.com or scanning the QR code.



Meet Our Member: Joseph Hurley

Former President of the Inspectors Council

Joseph Hurley, former President of the Inspectors' Council, retired on March 31st after 28 years in the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ). His service to both our state and CSEA SEIU Local 2001 is greatly appreciated and we wish him a long and happy retirement.

Hurley's career started well before his time at DCJ, however as he was a New Haven police officer from August of 1972, serving in the Patrol Division until he was transferred to the Narcotics Enforcement Unit in January of 1988 and from which he retired as a Detective in 1994. The City of New Haven greatly benefited from his 22 years of service, but their loss was the State of Connecticut's gain.

Hurley started at DCJ on April 29, 1994 (having just retired from the New Haven Police Department just one day prior!) where he was originally assigned to the Office of the Chief State's Attorney (OCSA) and would serve there until December 25, 2018.

At the time of being hired, he was assigned to the then Asset Forfeiture Bureau (AFB) and served as the liaison officer to all law enforcement agencies in the state for forfeiture matters.

From there he was transferred to the Financial Crimes Unit (FCU) now the Statewide Prosecution Bureau (SPB), then transferred to the

Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) in December 2016 and then spent two years in the MFU investigating accusations of people defrauding the Medicaid program. Then he was finally, in December 2018, he transferred to the Waterbury Judicial District. There he helped prosecutors with various investigative requests, sat in on interviews, served subpoenas, etc., all post-arrest work.

EVERYTHING a law enforcement officer does is IMPORTANT! Whether it's helping to cross children at a crosswalk on their way to school, assisting a disabled motorist, or drafting an arrest warrant for a murder suspect.

Short staffing naturally plays a crucial role in how well you can do your job. He remembers a time when he was in the AFB and had to go by himself and try to talk to subjects because he couldn't get an Inspector from another unit to accompany him. Later he would be asked why he did that and the answer was simple – because he had to - that's part of the job.

It was certainly an eye-opener for Hurley when he was asked to replace the outgoing treasurer in 2011, and when he was asked to run as vice-president in 2014, and even more so when he had to assume the presidency in mid-2019 (when the serving president re-

tired) until May 2021.

One of the things Hurley is most proud of in his capacity as a union leader was achieving guaranteed payment for unused compensatory time. Hurley also wanted to take a moment to thank others who helped in the fight, "All our union members can also congratulate our CSEA staff representative, Julius Preston, whose time and devotion helped to get that passed. Without his help, the Inspectors might still be seeing our compensatory time-lapse in December of whatever year we were forced to "use it or lose it".

When asked to explain the importance of the job of an Inspector,

Hurley answered, "All of us come from police departments with years of experience in multiple disciplines, the most important of which is dealing with people, a very, very important part of this job."

"An Inspector's job is a rewarding job because you can usually see the entire scope of the investigation from beginning to end and know that you are making a difference in people's lives."

Congratulations once again Joe - CSEA looks forward to having you continue your union journey in Council 400!



ABOVE Retiring Former President Joe Hurley is congratulated by current President David Sydnor at the Annual Inspectors Summer Meeting.

STRONGER
CSEA
SEIU
 Local 2001
TOGETHER

CSEA Proudly Endorses Jack Hennessy for House District 127th Representing Bridgeport



2022 Primary Election: Tuesday, August 9th

The 2022 Primary Election is on Tuesday, August 9th and CSEA has endorsed one candidate that has an opponent in the primary - incumbent Jack Hennessy, who is running for re-election in the 127th District representing Bridgeport.

Primaries are an important part of the election process, but unfortunately, primaries have a historically low voter turnout, especially in years without a presidential election, like this one. In recent years, fewer than 15% of registered voters showed up, which equates to about 11% of the voting age population. In Connecticut, only those

registered as a Democrat or Republican can vote in the primary, contributing to these low turnout numbers.

It's not only important for everyone to vote in the primary election, but also get involved with the campaigns. Scan the QR code to learn more about how you can get involved!



Who is the Freedom Foundation

Billionaire-Funded Anti-Worker Group Targets Connecticut Public Union Members & Their Benefits

Last year, the Freedom Foundation, formerly known as the Evergreen Freedom Foundation, announced their intentions to “target” Connecticut public union members for their latest anti-worker attacks.

WHO IS THE FREEDOM FOUNDATION?

The Freedom Foundation is a political organization based in Washington, who is well-known for advancing aggressive techniques to dismantle unions. The Freedom Foundation poses as a non-partisan think tank but in reality, they’re a billionaire-funded, political organization with a national agenda that is tied to the Koch brothers.

The Freedom Foundation claims to support union members but workers easily see through this façade. The Freedom Foundation regularly opposes laws that help working people including minimum wage increases, paid sick leave for all and fair scheduling laws. They even advocated for cutting the retirement plans for some workers.

But the Freedom Foundation’s efforts are failing. Not only is union membership increasing overall in states like Oregon and Washington where the Freedom Foundation initiated their attacks, but membership of the unions most targeted by the Freedom Foundation are steady, and in some cases, rising.

WHERE DO THEY GET THEIR FUNDING?

The Freedom Foundation receives hundreds of thousands of dollars each year from out-of-state foundations and organizations in addition to being a proud member of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC).

ALEC is a shadowy special-interest group where corporations pay for the opportunity to peddle anti-worker model legislation to state legislators. More than 100 corporations and legislators have since dropped or renounced their affiliation with ALEC, including Amazon.com and the Gates Foundation.

One of ALEC’s most high profile publications is their “Toolkit” for state budget reforms. This 42-page document contains dozens of tips and policy suggestions for states to cut services, attack workers, and undermine the integrity of government. Freedom Foundation founder Bob Williams and Economic Policy Fellow Amber Gunn are two of the eight authors of the toolkit. In addition, the Freedom Foundation is credited as one of ALEC’s five “Publication Partners” and Williams is the Private Sector Chairman of ALEC’s “Tax and Fiscal Policy Task Force.” Finally, the report cites the Freedom Foundation’s work in Washington as a model at least four times in the report.

The State Policy Network, one of the primary drivers of the ALEC agenda in statehouses around the country, is also financially linked to the Freedom Foundation.

WHAT DOES THE FREEDOM FOUNDATION WANT?

The Freedom Foundation has publicly opposed pay raises for state employees, “It makes little sense to promote a pay raise

for state employees who are satisfied enough with their jobs that 90% of them choose to remain employed by the state,” Amber Gunn, Freedom Foundation Blog.

They want to end public employee pensions, “Everything should be on the table . . . states should consider replacing their defined-benefit plans with defined-contribution 401(k) plans,” Bob Williams, founder of the “Freedom” Foundation.

They want to eliminate public services and good jobs, “The state and taxpayers would be better off competitively contracting (out) jobs that already exist within the private sector,” Amber Gun, Freedom Foundation Blog.

They want to increase healthcare monthly premium rates, “It’s about time state worker health insurance premiums were on the table. The Evergreen Freedom Foundation has long recommended that state workers pay a bigger share . . .” Freedom Foundation Official Blog.

HOW DO THEY OPERATE?


The Freedom Foundation relies on lies and misinformation to destroy the strength of our union. They’ll send postcards to your house that look like contact information re-

quests forms from CSEA, they’ll email you at work, they’ll even knock on your front door. They’ll stop at nothing to ensure that all public workers lose their collective voice.

They’ve already started by submitting FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) requests for personal information on union members across Connecticut. They don’t respect your right to privacy. They want your home address, personal email, cell phone number and much more.

Members can expect that the next step of their scheme after securing your personal information will be to approach you at work, at home and on social media. In fact, they’ve already touted their in-person visits.

It is imperative that if you are contacted by the Freedom Foundation, or hear from your fellow union members that they were, you let your chapter officers, stewards and union representatives know. In an age when scams are omnipresent, this is one of the most insidious of all - and by sharing the information with one another, together we can send the scammers packing.



A DARK MONEY GROUP CALLED THE
"FREEDOM FOUNDATION" IS HARVESTING
 YOUR INFORMATION SO THAT THEY CAN
 KNOCK ON YOUR FRONT DOOR.

When they come knocking,
Ask them if they will:

- Negotiate your contract?
- Protect your pension?
- File grievances against your employer?
- Represent you on the job?
- Fight for a safer workplace?

WHEN THEY SAY NO,
 TELL THEM TO GO,
 & LET THEM KNOW:

I'M STICKING WITH MY UNION!

Family Child Care Provider News

Noticias para Proveedores de Cuidado Infantil

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL
President & Delegate to CSEA Executive Council	Katherine Lantigua	347-257-2417	Kcolorfuldaycare@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jacqueline Ulloa	203-437-2965	jacqueline_ulloa77@hotmail.com
Secretary	Iris Velazquez	203-953-8641	jehovahjirehfamilydaycare@gmail.com
Delegate to Executive Council	Queen Freelove	203-314-4452	tootinyq@aol.com
Alt Delegate to Executive Council	Jeannine Lewis	203-214-7418	cozygg7000@yahoo.com
McCusker Scholarship Representative	Jacqueline Ulloa	203-437-2965	jacqueline_ulloa77@hotmail.com
Professional Development Representative	Rhonda Knowles	203-641-5686	lavenderirk@yahoo.com
REGIONS			
Eastern Regional Vice President (VP)	Vacant		
Regional Lead Organizer	Vacant		
Regional Organizer	Vacant		
North Central Regional VP	Maria Amado	860-817-4580	greenworldchildcare@icloud.com
Regional Lead Organizer	Naomi Mitchell	860-888-6323	naomi1431@yahoo.com
Regional Organizer	Joanne Johnson	860-995-2332	jojohnson25@att.net
South Central Regional VP	Shelta Wilson	203-850-3011	shelta1234@gmail.com
Regional Lead Organizer	Jeannine Lewis	203-214-7418	cozygg7000@yahoo.com
Regional Organizer	Gamila Elbashir	203-909-4966	egamila@sbcglobal.net
Northwest Regional VP	Maria Reyes	203-526-4662	reyesmaria1922@yahoo.com
Regional Lead Organizer	Dayhannys Castillo	646-606-6562	dayhannys23@gmail.com
Regional Organizer	Maribel Ventura	203-706-5127	vmaribel26@yahoo.com
Southwest Regional VP	Kamara Moodie	203-449-1401	imara80@yahoo.com
Regional Lead Organizer	Rosa Delgado	347-208-1758	safarydaycare@gmail.com
Regional Organizer	Karina Plaza	475-731-3054	karinaplaza87@gmail.com

Family Childcare Council Leadership 2022-2024



Providers it has been a pleasure working with so many of you. I embarked on a journey that allowed me to grow as a leader, and get to know so many amazing Providers statewide. I am proud of what we accomplished and our continued dedication to make the lives of all providers brighter and full of opportunity. each and everyone of you have been part of my journey. I thank you for the opportunity.

Sending you all success, especially our newly elected Child Care President Katherine Lantigua.

With Much Love,
-Queen Freelove



CSEA SEIU LOCAL 2001 CHILD CARE UNION



Proveedores Queen Freelove aquí, ha sido un placer trabajar con tantos de ustedes. Me embarqué en un viaje que me permitió crecer como líder y conocer a tantos proveedores increíbles en todo el estado. Estoy orgulloso de lo que logramos y de nuestra continua dedicación para hacer que la vida de todos los proveedores sea más brillante y llena de oportunidades. todos y cada uno de ustedes han sido parte de mi viaje. Te agradezco la oportunidad.

Les envío todo el éxito, especialmente a nuestra recién elegida Presidenta de Cuidado Infantil Katherine Lantigua.

Con Mucho Amor,
-Queen Freelove



CSEA SEIU LOCAL 2001 CHILD CARE UNION

Labor Trivia

Where does the term “Mad as a Hatter” come from?

The term “Mad as a Hatter” comes from the 18th and 19th centuries, when many women, men and even children worked in the hat-making industry. The main chemical that was part of the manufacturing process was mercury, and the workers would use mercury nitrate in the process of turning small animal furs into felts for hats.

While it was unknown at the time, mer-

cury nitrate is very toxic to humans. Too much exposure to the chemical can cause different physical and mental symptoms that can imitate insanity.

Experts believe that the phrase first originated in Danbury, Connecticut, a prominent city for the hat-making industry, as many men from these areas worked in hat factories, leading to more mercury poisoning cases.

Without unions, these workers didn’t have a voice at the workplace to fight for safety measures that would prevent exposure to these dangerous chemicals. Most recently we saw the positive impact that unions have on health and safety in the workplace during the pandemic. Unionized workers were more likely to have access to PPE, affordable healthcare and paid sick leave.

\$34 Million Essential Workers COVID-19 Assistance Fund

The Connecticut Essential Workers COVID-19 Assistance Fund has been up and running for several months, but only 1% of the \$34 million fund has been awarded so far. The fund was authorized by the legislature in June for the purpose of easing the financial burden on essential workers who became ill and were unable to work, or died, between March 10, 2020 and July 20, 2021.

The program assists with:

Lost Wages – Unpaid leave and lost wages if an employee was unable to work after contracting COVID-19, or due to symptoms later diagnosed as COVID-19.

Out-of-Pocket Medical Expenses – For medical services related to contracting

COVID-19 that were not covered by insurance.

Burial Expenses – Burial/funeral expenses of \$3,000 for an eligible essential worker who died from COVID-19.

Families can also apply for any combination of the three benefits on behalf of a qualified essential worker who died after contracting COVID-19. The program can distribute up to \$34 million on a first-come, first-served basis through June 30, 2024, or until the fund is depleted.

The program was opened in January, initially to health care workers, first responders, teachers, grocery store employees, and others from the Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention's IA and IB priority lists for essential workers.

But applications did not come pouring in during the first few months, prompting lawmakers to make changes to the program this spring.

The application deadline was extended from mid-July through Dec. 31 of this year. And the program was broadened to include the CDC's IC list of essential workers. Among that group are restaurant staff, gas station and utilities workers, and construction crews.

If you believe you are eligible for coverage from the lost wages, out-of-pocket medical expenses, and burial expenses, then check your eligibility by visiting ctessentialworkerrelief.org

Go Green!

Opt-In to our Digital CSEA News

Did you know that the average person in the US uses more than 700 pounds of paper per year? Or that despite global digitalization, paper usage has actually grown 126% in the last 20 years in the US?

The CSEA News has been an integral part of our communications program for decades, but it is 2022 and we have a host of resources to reduce our carbon footprint and "Go Green." The most effective way for our members to "Go Green" is to request that the CSEA News be sent digitally rather than a hardcopy in the mail!

"Going Green" not only helps decrease the amount of paper waste in our landfills, but it also reduces ink waste and the carbon emissions from delivery. Many of our CSEA members have been interested in decreasing their carbon footprint and opting into the digital E-Newsletter is a great way to take a small step towards a greener future! Every

month you will receive this digital paper in your email inbox - all of the same information, just a lot less waste! To opt into the Go Green E-Newsletter, simply visit bit.ly/GoGreenCSEA and fill out the form.

To make your communications experience even easier, we've launched a BRAND NEW WEBSITE! Visit CSEA-CT.com or SEIU2001.org and let us know what you think - give us feedback on what you like, don't like and what you want improved by visiting bit.ly/CSEAWebSiteInput (case sensitive).

If CSEA has your email address, then you've already received this survey in your inbox, but if we don't then it is also a good opportunity for you to update your contact information by visiting bit.ly/UpdateCSEA (case sensitive).

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