



Check out www.opeiu8.org for the most up-to-date calendar!

Sat., April 24
Steward and Leadership Conference

Session A
9:00-10:30 am
Contract Language

Session B
1:00-2:30 pm
Organizing

attend either or both Via Zoom

Tues., May 11
Advanced Shop Steward Training

6:00 - 7:30 pm
Via Zoom

Sat., June 26
Eastern Regional Meeting

9:00-9:30 am
New Member Orientation
9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Organizing Virtually in the Workplace
Via Zoom

Tues., July 20
New Shop Steward Training

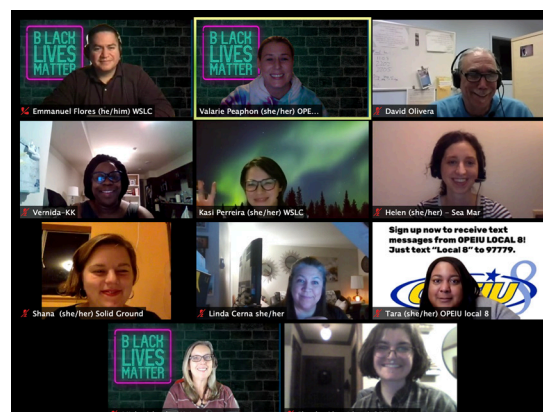
6:00 - 7:30 pm
Via Zoom

RESJ Committee Defines Mission and Takes Action to Live It

Local 8 has an active Race, Equity and Social Justice Committee that meets twice monthly on the second and fourth Thursday at 6pm via Zoom. This Committee is co-chaired by Local 8 members Emmanuel Flores and Helen Angell. Meetings are open to all Local 8 members! Email Valarie@opeiu8.org or Tara@opeiu8.org to receive the meeting invite.

In January we read and discussed George Takei's book *They Called Us Enemy* about the Japanese internment camps in the United States during WWII. In February we revised our mission statement (see below) and endorsed the OWLs campaign to "root out racism." We are now working to increase language access at Local 8, have a professional race equity assessment conducted, and support the Duwamish Tribe in their efforts to regain federal recognition.

RESJ Mission Statement: The Race, Equity and Social Justice Committee works to support and empower marginalized workers. We know our fates are interconnected and many workplace injustices are rooted in racism and discrimination. We are committed to fighting for social and economic justice for all through training, educational resources, public advocacy, community organizing, and creating space for hard conversations. Together in solidarity we can work to end racism and all forms of oppression.



RESJ Committee Meeting: Top row, L to R: Emmanuel Flores, Valarie Peaphon, David Olivera; Second row, L to R: Vernida Jackson, Kasi Perreira, Helen Angell; Third row, L to R: Shana McCann, Linda Cerna, Tara Powell; Bottom row, L to R: Misha Smith, Phoebe Feldsher

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President

John Adams
Vice President

Suzanne Mode
Business Manager

Cynthia Schu
Secretary-Treasurer

Shannon Mains
Recording Secretary

Anthony Forte
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Sara Jimenez-Orozco
Central

David Olivera
Central

Shana McCann
Central

Elizabeth Maass
North

Tara McIntosh
North

Paul Bender
South/West

Elaine Carlson
South/West

Becky Mowry
South/West

Karen White
South/West

Barb Cameron
East

Rick Nesbitt
East

Robin Sullivan
East

Trustees

Richard Cox
Trustee

David Evans
Trustee

Lois Jamieson
Trustee

Joan Weiss
Trustee

Call to action: Participate in Local 8 Food Drive

Our Communications Committee is coordinating an OPEIU Local 8 Food Drive to give back in our communities. Have you checked out the Food Drive Padlet Bulletin Board yet where members have been sharing their donations? If not, go to <https://padlet.com/opeiu8/zlitc8rtxlspaky> now to see our progress so far! We have a goal of at least 100 members participating by the end of April. We're asking members to donate food, a gas card, gift card or cash to

a local food bank or Northwest Harvest food drop location, and then share a photo and/or participation on the Food Drive Padlet Bulletin Board. That way we can recognize the collective donations being made as part of this drive and see how close we are to our goal. If you prefer to send in your info for us to post, or for any questions or to find out how to get involved with the Communications Committee, email corinne@opeiu8.org.



Renaming Contest

For years, we have called this newsletter simply the "Local 8 Journal." We're reestablishing a quarterly schedule and think it is a good time to update the name to something a little more intriguing. And we wouldn't be Local 8 if we didn't get suggestions from members and put it to a vote.

So, please send your suggestions for a new name to corinne@opeiu8.org. We will plan to share them all at the next Membership Assembly and vote to choose the new name. The submitter of the winning name will have bragging rights in perpetuity!

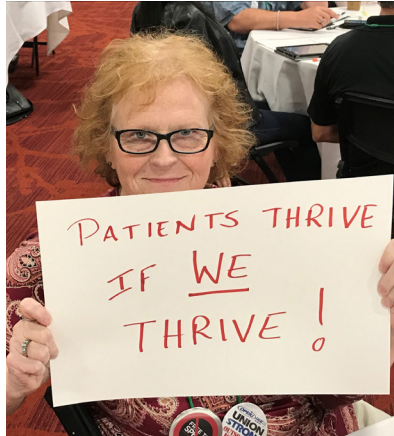
Want to stay informed about union negotiations, meetings, and actions in your workplace?

Text Local 8 to 97779 to receive text updates.

It will prompt you to let us know your name and where you work to make sure you get the right updates. (Message and data rates may apply).

Shop Steward Spotlight: Jan Abberger

We wanted to congratulate Jan Abberger, Executive Board member and Shop Steward at Kaiser Permanente, on her retirement and take this opportunity to recognize all Jan has done for her coworkers and union over the years. Jan has been a member of OPEIU (first local 23, then local 8) since 2001 and served our union as a Shop Steward and Executive Board member for much of the time since then. She also served on the Union Bargaining Team for five rounds of contract negotiations, fighting to protect against takeaways and make improvements, which often took organizing coworkers and even leafleting.



When asked if she had a message for her fellow union members, Jan said, “My favorite quote or inspiration is ‘We are Stronger Together.’ I think it says everything. We can’t do it on our own. We are a family. I may be gone, but none of you will ever be forgotten.”

Do you have a Shop Steward in your workplace who you would like to spotlight in an upcoming newsletter? Send your suggestion to your Union Rep or to corinne@opeiu8.org.

Did you Know? Local 8 Hardship Fund

OPEIU Local 8 has a Hardship Fund that provides financial assistance to members who’ve suffered an emergency or catastrophic situation that has caused a temporary, sudden and non-recurring financial shortfall that may be the result of a natural disaster, immediate family crisis, or acute illness or injury. If you are in need of, or you know a co-worker in need of emergency financial assistance, please let them know about the Hardship Fund.

Application guidelines and instructions, as well as information about how to donate to the fund can be found at www.opeiu8.org under “Member Support & Action.”

The OPEIU Local 8 Hardship Fund was established in 2011. We are the only OPEIU local to date that has a fund to help its union members in need. Since the fund was created, it has helped more than 360 members, totaling almost \$88,000 in assistance for members. The Hardship Fund is supported by contributions by our fellow OPEIU Local 8 Union Sisters, Brothers and Siblings. The Hardship Fund is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, and donations to the fund are tax deductible. There are many ways to give to the fund: payroll deduction if your contract allows, direct deduction from your checking or a one-time donation; all are welcome. You can even set the OPEIU Local 8 Hardship Fund as your Amazon Smile Charity. For more information or assistance in donating to the fund contact Shelby at diane-shelby@opeiu8.org.

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OPEIU Local 8 has a New Home!

Since Local 8 was chartered in 1945, our Union office has been located in the Seattle Labor Temple. Anyone visiting us in Belltown over the last few years has seen the building deteriorate and the urgent need for it to be retrofitted against earthquake damage. Sadly, the building was sold in December.

Fortunately, we've secured office space in the Eastlake neighborhood of Seattle. The building is Union friendly, owned by PROTEC17 – one of the many union offices we represent. We will be spending the summer moving in and completing some tenant improvements. In the meantime, OPEIU Local 8 is open for business and continues to serve our members and their representation needs.



Here is our new address:

2900 Eastlake Ave E, Suite 220
Seattle Washington 98102-3012

Our Phone and Fax remain the same:

206-441-8880 or 1-800-600-2433

Fax: 206-441-0207



Address Service Requested

OPEIU Local 8, 2900 Eastlake Ave. E. #220, Seattle, WA 98102-3012

