



Check out www.opeiu8.org for the most up-to-date calendar! Registration for each event will begin the month prior to event.

Sat., Jan. 27, 2024
Membership Assembly

10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Everett (in-person)

Thurs., Feb. 8
New Shop Steward Training
6:00 - 7:30 pm
via Zoom

Sat., Feb. 24
Central Regional Meeting
New Member Orientation:
10:00 - 10:30 am
Meeting: 10:30 am - 2:00 pm
Seattle (in-person)

Sat., Mar. 9
New Shop Steward Training
9:30 - 11:00 am
via Zoom

Sat., Mar. 23
North Regional Meeting
New Member Orientation:
10:00 - 10:30 am
Meeting: 10:30 am - 2:00 pm
Everett (in-person)

OPEIU Local 8 by phone:

206-441-8880
800-600-2433

Membership Assembly

On-site Event

Saturday, January 27, 2024

10:00 am to 4:00 pm (registration begins at 9:30 am)
4:00 pm to 6:00 pm Social Hour and PAC Auction
Lunch Provided

The "D" Delta Marriott Hotel

3105 Pine Street
Everett, WA 98201

To participate, please RSVP by Wednesday, January 24, 2023 to Richard@opeiu8.org. For members needing to stay overnight, reserve your hotel room by Tuesday, December 26 if you want to stay over. All reimbursements must be in accordance with the OPEIU Local 8 Reimbursement Policy. Our hotel block will be available until full or until our **deadline of December 26**.

Assembly Highlights

- Nominations and election of Regional Executive Board Members and Alternates (see details below)
- Nominations and election of Delegates to the WSLC Conventions (see details below)
- Nominations and election of any vacant Central Labor Council Delegate positions
- Review for Approval of the Union's 2024 Operating Budget
- Meetings of Local 8 Committees
- Review for Approval any New Union Business
- Member Reports
- Presentation of the Tommy McLean Union Activist Award
- Social Hour and PAC Auction

Notice of 2024 OPEIU Local 8 Nominations and Elections

In accordance with Article 14 of Local 8's Constitution and Bylaws, this is notification that nominations and elections will take place at the January 27 Membership Assembly (see above for details). The nominations and elections process will begin in the morning session.

Agenda

- Nominations and election of (5) Alternate Executive Board Members from the Central Region to complete a 3-year term until January 2025.
- Nominations and election of (1) Regional Executive Board Member and (4) Alternates from the North Region to complete a 3-year term until January 2025.
- Nominations and election of (2) Regional Executive Board Members and (4) Alternates from the East Region to complete a 3-year term until January 2025.
- Nominations and election of (3) Alternate Executive Board Members from the South/West Region to complete a 3-year term until January 2025.
- Nominations and election of Delegates to the WSLC Conventions to serve a two-year term.

Executive Board

Kellie McGuire
President

Sara Franklin
Vice President

Suzanne Mode
Business Manager

Corinne Cosentino
Secretary-Treasurer

Katrina Ondeck
Recording Secretary

Elizabeth Flavin
Central

Anthony Forte
Central

Sara Jimenez-Orozco
Central

David Olivera
Central

Byram Simpson
Central

Misha Smith
Central

Corina Yballa
Central

Robin Sullivan
East

Theresa Sullivan
East

Lucy Lopez
North

Elizabeth Maass
North

Bobbie Pringle
North

Brandon Ashford-Whitfield
South/West

Paul Bender
South/West

Emmanuel Flores
South/West

Coreale Forrest
South/West

Debbie Guillot
South/West

Benjamin Peterson
South/West

Trustees

David Evans, *Trustee*

Lois Jamieson, *Trustee*

Fred Hutchins, *Trustee*

Shannon Mains, *Trustee*

Joan Weiss, *Trustee*

New Year, New Involvement: Join Local 8 Committees for a Purposeful Year

Do your New Year's Resolutions this year include becoming more active in your union? So much of the work of OPEIU Local 8 happens because of the efforts of our member-led committees. Now is a great time to choose one to get involved in and be a part of what we can accomplish this year. You can find more information about each committee and how to join at www.opeiu8.org/get-involved/local-8-committees/

Join the **Young Workers Committee** on Saturday, January 20 from 12 - 3pm for game night! We're getting together to get to know each other and have some fun. Snacks and good vibes will be provided!

Bring a friend or just bring yourself. Register by emailing phoebe@opeiu8.org or omar@opeiu8.org and let us know if you need a ride or can offer a ride! We'll be meeting at Local 8's office in Seattle, 2900 Eastlake Ave East, Suite 200.

Our **Political Action Committee (PAC)** organizes our action on political candidates and political issues, get out the vote campaigns, and coordinates fundraisers (no dues money goes to political contributions so their funds are raised separately). PAC meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month by Zoom.

Our **Shop Steward Committee** plans member education and hosts monthly workshops the 4th Wednesday of each month, and plans our annual Steward & Leadership Conference that takes place each April.

Our **Race, Equity, and Social Justice (RESJ) Committee** works to support and empower marginalized workers through training, educational resources, public advocacy, community organizing, and creating space for hard conversations. RESJ meets the second Thursday of each month at 5pm via Zoom. Join RESJ at the MLK Jr. march in Seattle on January 15th! Contact Valarie@opeiu8.org for details!

Our **Outreach, Engagement, Visibility (OEV) Committee** builds Local 8's visibility and involvement in our communities through volunteer activities etc. and meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 5:30pm.



Our **Hardship Fundraising Committee** is seeking members who can help with fundraising for our Hardship Fund, which provides emergency financial assistance to our fellow OPEIU Local 8 members. Our fundraiser of the year will be at the January Membership Assembly. If you'd like to be part of the planning committee, please contact nallely@opeiu8.org.

Between the silent auction and the 50/50 game at the last Membership Assembly, the Hardship Fund was able to raise \$1400. A very special thank you to those businesses and individuals in the community who donated to the Silent Auction: Tree of Tranquility Massage – Jude's Organic Lotion Bars – Kellie Quinn – Mary Blandin – Bizzy Jill – Lori Brunt – Grace Lira – Sarah Voels – Alicia Fred – Mary Stupek – Diane Grossenbacher

Kaiser Permanente Members Ratify Historic Contracts

After many months of negotiations both locally and nationally, KPWA members overwhelmingly voted “Yes” to ratify our local and national Agreements! The larger Coalition 3-day strike across Kaiser regions brought this win home to all our KPWA members. Wins include 21% wage increases over four years, including a 6% wage increase retroactive to October 2023, a \$1,500 ratification bonus, increases in shift differentials, and our members in Washington are now eligible for Kaiser’s retiree medical payments. These wins would not have been possible without the strength of our Coalition Unions and our members’ continued actions in the workplace throughout these negotiations.



Union Bargaining Team at Kaiser (L-R): Marissa Wilson, Paul Bender, Brenda Huffman, Suzanne Mode, Lynda Bates, Kenyatta McDowell, Bobbie Pringle, Misha Smith, and Leslie Liddle.

Political Advocacy Training at the 2024 Regional Meetings

2023 showed us that local elections are just as important as any election. It’s not enough to vote for the candidates that closest match our values. We must also hold elected officials accountable to pass laws that benefit and improve our lives. As we head into 2024, we know that races will set the stage for the next four years.

We are partnering with Local 8 members from Solid Ground’s Advocacy Department to learn how to use our voices, experiences, and stories to help shape laws and move lawmakers at all levels of government to pass laws that will positively impact our lives and our communities. Join us at any of the four Regional Meetings this year to participate in the training; by the end of it, you will feel empowered to research who represents you, how to meet and engage with your elected officials, and how to influence the public policy process.

Contributions to PAC are voluntary and union dues are not used for political contributions.

Constituency Group Spotlight - Coalition of Black Trade Unionists

Our Union community stretches far into the wider labor community. We are highlighting some of the more prominent labor constituency groups as a series in our newsletter. If there’s one that speaks to your identity, reach out and join!

Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) was founded in 1972 as a fiercely independent voice of black workers within the trade union movement, challenging organized labor to be more relevant to the needs and aspirations of Black and poor workers. Today, CBTU carries on their mission by engaging in the political sphere, supporting younger workers, and building solidarity with oppressed workers around the country and around the world. There are two chapters in Washington State: Puget Sound and Pierce County. To learn more, visit <https://cbtu.nationbuilder.com/>

Staff

Suzanne Mode
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Corinne Cosentino
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Nallely Flores
Organizer

Omar Cuevas Vega
Organizer

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Director of Contract Administration

Valarie Peaphon
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Phoebe Feldsher
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Jesse Holtzinger-Cruz
Union Representative

Mike Horne
Union Representative

Ida Kovacic
Union Representative

Leslie Liddle
Union Representative

Patrick Pedersen
Union Representative

Tara Powell
Union Representative

Angie Wedekind
Union Representative

Geno Amador
Office Manager

Libby Alejandro
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Find us on
social media at
[@OPEIULocal8](#)



liuna#242/afl-cio

Lobby Days

Every year Local 8 proudly supports our members to engage with state lawmakers to advocate for funding and laws that directly impact the work that we do during the legislative session. If you are interested in participating in a lobby day, please reach out to your Union Representative to learn more.

(Pictured at right: Local 8 Members with Senator Joe Nguyen at Homecare Lobby Day in 2020)



Non-Profit Employees at Roots Young Adult Shelter Join OPEIU Local 8

Employees at Roots Young Adult Shelter voted unanimously to form their union in November. The group of 16 case managers, volunteer supervisors, and guest service specialists in Seattle are dedicated to partnering with young adults on their journey to stability and ensuring everyone has a safe place to call home. They sought to unionize to improve working conditions, increase transparency, and have a chance to be better prepared to support the communities they serve. Roots (Rising Out of the Shadows) Young Adult Shelter was founded in 1999 and was the first overnight shelter designed to address the unique needs of unhoused young adults, ages 18-25. Since then, Roots has grown to provide a myriad of services including: on-site case management, hot meals, laundry facilities, personal hygiene facilities, personal items, and referrals. “Unionizing is the only way to increase worker autonomy and ensure full transparency, accountability, and equity. Ultimately, we are unionizing for our guests – they deserve staff who aren’t experiencing chronic burnout, financial distress, and compassion fatigue” Volunteer Supervisor Tabatha Kojima shared.

