



Calendar

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. 25, 2025

Membership Assembly

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

Thurs., Feb. 6

New Shop Steward Training

6:00 - 7:30 pm
via Zoom

Sat., Feb. 22

Central Regional Meeting

New Member Orientation:
10:00 - 10:30 am
Meeting: 10:30 am - 2:00 pm
Seattle (in-person)

Sat., Mar. 8

New Shop Steward Training

9:30 - 11:00 am
via Zoom

Sat., Mar. 22

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 25, 2025

IBEW Local 46 Hall

19802 62nd Ave S
Kent, WA 98032

9:30 a.m. Coffee/Sign-in
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Assembly

DoubleTree Hilton Hotel Seattle Airport

18740 International Blvd
Seattle, WA 98188

4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Social Hour/Auction

To participate, please RSVP by Wednesday, January 22, 2025 to opeiu8@opeiu8.org. All reimbursements must be in accordance with the OPEIU Local 8 Reimbursement Policy.

Assembly Highlights

- Nominations and election of all Local 8 Officers and Regional Executive Board Members
- Nominations and election of one (1) Trustee
- Nominations and election of all Central Labor Council positions
- Second reading of changes to our Constitution and Bylaws
- Review and vote of the 2025 Local 8 operating budget.
- Meetings of the Shop Steward; Race, Equity and Social Justice; Political Action, Outreach, Engagement, Visibility, and Hardship Fundraising and Young Workers Committees.
- Review for approval any new Union business.
- Membership reports and announcements.

Voice of Union Members: Celebrating our Victories and the Path Ahead

OPEIU 8 is part of a larger coalition of over 600 unions and labor organizations across Washington state, and together we connect candidates with our members. A strong majority of our endorsements, including Democrat, Republican and Independent candidates won their elections. This means that we have many ways to work with elected officials.

We are planning to visit Olympia because our work is cut out for us now to address funding in the upcoming budget year for many of our members' professions, including healthcare, home care services, state employees, non-profits and health and human services sectors. You can join us for a lobby day or become involved now by joining our political action team.



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

Yesenia Colvin
East

Jose Garcia
East

Robin Sullivan
East

Theresa Sullivan
East

Elizabeth Maass
North

Miriam Ramirez
North

Nikki Winston
North

Brandon Ashford-Whitfield
South/West

Paul Bender
South/West

Emmanuel Flores
South/West

Al'Dianna Hale
South/West

Benjamin Peterson
South/West

Alex Taylor-Yaconetti
South/West

Trustees

David Evans, Trustee

Lois Jamieson, Trustee

Shannon Mains, Trustee

Joan Weiss, Trustee

Flores Siblings Gain New Perspectives at Union Summer Camp

This past summer, 16-year-old Jack and 13-year-old Emma, children of Local 8 members Emmanuel and Amanda Flores, had the opportunity to attend a union summer camp at The Vines Center in Little Rock, Arkansas, thanks to OPEIU's Romeo Corbeil/Gilles Beauregard Scholarship Fund. In addition to traditional summer camp activities, Jack and Emma were able to learn more about labor and civil rights history.

On her camp experience, Emma shared, "My favorite part was visiting the Little Rock Nine Museum and learning about the challenges they faced every day just to get an education and how they changed history." Emma also reflected on how she learned to push herself outside her comfort zone, stating "I met new people, became more independent, shared new experiences, and tried different challenges."

Reflecting on his time at camp, Jack shared, "I learned about how different cultures have shaped labor practices throughout history, but I also learned how hard women and minorities had to work to gain the same rights in the workplace." Jack discovered a new passion for public speaking, indicating "The workshops really helped build my confidence, and I'm excited to use these skills in the future." Jack enthusiastically added "I would recommend union summer camp 1,000% to other kids! You not only make new friends, but also learn about essential topics like workers' rights, teamwork, and leadership. Plus, the balance between fun and learning is perfect."

At the Local 8 membership assembly in September, Jack and Emma took the stage to share their experiences from the union summer camp, delivering powerful and inspiring speeches. Their reflections resonated with the audience, underscoring the camp's lasting impact in teaching young people about the history and principles of the labor movement. In a touching gesture, they presented flowers to Local 8 Representative Tara Powell, who told their family about the camp, as well as Local 8 Business Manager Suzanne Mode and President Kellie McGuire for their support.

This experience reminds us all of the importance to invest in and nurture future generations in the fight for workers' rights!



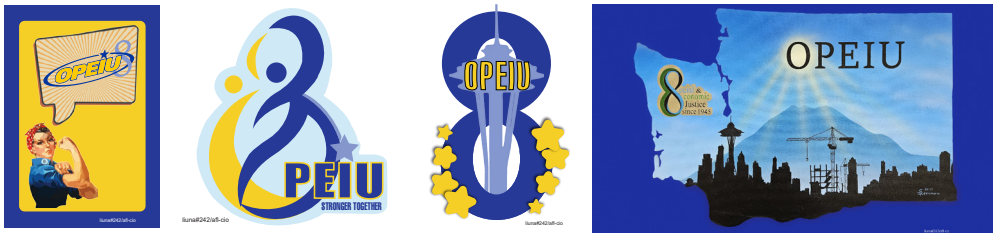
*Pictured left to right:
Amanda Flores, Emmanuel Flores, Tara Powell, Emma Flores, Jack
Flores, Suzanne Mode, Kellie McGuire*

Sticker Contest Showcases Local 8's Creativity and Pride

This spring, OPEIU Local 8's Outreach, Engagement, Visibility Committee hosted an exciting sticker contest to celebrate our union pride. Members from around the state submitted creative designs, crafted by themselves or their family members, reflecting the unique spirit and values of Local 8.

Each committee had the opportunity to review and vote on their favorite designs during their respective meetings. From a pool of incredible submissions, four winners were chosen. Of these, three designs were transformed into vibrant stickers that have already been printed and distributed, while one has been adapted into a Zoom background to showcase our union pride virtually.

Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to make this contest a success and congratulations to the designers of the winning designs pictured below: Valarie Peaphon, Kyra Williams, Tanya Chou, and Robyn Steilman. Stay tuned for more opportunities to engage and celebrate what makes Local 8 special!



If you haven't had a chance to grab one yet, these stickers will also be available at our upcoming Membership Assembly in January.

Constituency Group Spotlight - Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance

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 is one that speaks to your identity, reach out and join!

APALA, founded in 1972 is the first and only national organization of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) workers. APALA is dedicated to promoting political education and voter registration programs among AAPIs, and to the training, empowerment, and leadership of AAPIs within the labor movement and AAPI community. Furthermore, APALA works to defend and advocate for the civil and human rights of AAPIs, immigrants and all people of color, and continues to develop ties within international labor organizations, especially in the Asia-Pacific Rim. There is one chapter in Washington State: Seattle.

To learn more, visit <https://www.apalanet.org/>

Staff

Suzanne Mode
Business Manager

Corinne Cosentino
Organizing Director

Nallely Flores
Organizer

Omar Cuevas Vega
Organizer

Erin Adamson
Dir. of Contract Administration

Valarie Peaphon
Dir. of Contract Negotiations

Diane Arnold
Union Representative

Xavier Eddy
Union Representative

Phoebe Feldsher
Union Representative

Jesse Holtzinger-Cruz
Union Representative

Leslie Liddle
Union Representative

Conor Meara
Union Representative

Patrick Pedersen
Union Representative

Tara Powell
Union Representative

Byram Simpson
Member Support Representative

Angie Wedekind
Union Representative

Geno Amador
Office Manager

Libby Alejandro
Administrative Secretary

Lynn Brown
Billing Specialist

Richard Cox
Graphics and Comms Specialist

Kristine Alejandro
Membership Account Specialist

Rhonda Griffus
Bookkeeper

Kim Hernandez
Administrative Assistant



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

Address Service Requested

liuna#242/afl-cio



First in the Nation OPEIU Hardship Fund Thriving

In August 2010, OPEIU Local 8 established the first ever Hardship Fund within our International Union. Since then, we have distributed over \$111,500 in assistance to members in need. This year alone, over \$5,000 has been distributed to 22 members. At our September Membership Assembly this year, the Hardship Fund Raising Committee held a bake sale. With your contributions through baked goods, purchases and one-time donations we raised nearly \$800! That sum doesn't include new monthly contributions from the 10 people who signed up for payroll deduction at the event! With your help, we were able to increase the amount of financial assistance the Hardship Fund Committee can provide from \$250 to \$350. Our Hardship Fund is one of the many ways OPEIU Local 8 puts the concept of solidarity into action.

If you want to start or increase monthly contributions to the fund, you can do so here:



If you need assistance, you can find all the information including the eligibility guidelines on our website <https://opeiu8.org/member-resources/hardship-fund-and-resources/> and the electronic application here:

