



Affiliated Union Member - here is your December, 2017 e-newsletter (with updates since early November):

### **[Flexing Purchasing Power to Help Families in Need](#)**

Union members can help advance the mission of the John J. Driscoll United Labor Agency (ULA) when shopping online for gifts this holiday season. [Click here to use Amazon Smile to boost support for the Connecticut AFL-CIO's community services program.](#)

### **[Looking Ahead to 2018 by Holding Candidates Accountable Today](#)**

Hundreds of union members in early December participated in a forum where they pressed gubernatorial hopefuls on a wide variety of critical public policies. [Click here for a photo from the event organized by labor allies and our partners in Connecticut Working Families.](#)

### **[Reducing Workplace Stress through "Mutual Respect and Buy-In"](#)**

Union leaders in late November weighed-in on the results of recent teacher and education support staff surveys highlighting positive labor-management collaboration. [Click here for more on findings that will inform collective efforts to reduce stress levels and improve retention rates.](#)

### **[Union Members in the Spotlight](#)**

On the occasion of national Education Support Professionals Day, we took the opportunity to highlight Connecticut's 2017 Anne Marie Murphy "Paraeducator of the Year." [Click here to meet this PSRP union member who plans to use her new role to elevate her profession.](#)

## **[Taking a Principled Stand to Protect Access to Libraries](#)**

Education personnel in Norwalk Public Schools in mid November demonstrated their commitment to resisting proposals that threaten to negatively impact students' opportunities to learn. [Click here for photos of union members speaking out at a grievance hearing on proposed elimination of library aides.](#)

## **[Denouncing the "Tax Scam's" Attacks on Teachers](#)**

Educators in early November spoke out against attempts to take-away their annual federal deduction for out-of-pocket expenses covering classroom supplies. [Click here for photos of union members helping expose a harmful provision in Congressional Republicans' corporate tax cut package.](#)

## **[Intervening to Block a Scheme to Squeeze Patients](#)**

Union leaders in early November added their voices to growing calls for Hartford HealthCare (HHC) to end its now-settled contractual dispute with Anthem, Inc. [Click here for more on how our movement stepped in to resist delayed treatment, limited access and higher costs.](#)

## **[Showing Pride for "Members Who Stepped Up to Run"](#)**

Among dozens of affiliated union members who were on the November 7 Municipal General Election ballot, 21 won their races for local office. [Click here to meet several who "put it all on the line to show that 'labor is your neighbor.'"](#)

## **Upcoming Activities & Events**

- Ongoing: [Operation Agua to Aid Puerto Rico Relief](#)
- December 8: [CT Students for a Dream Educators Conference on Undocumented Youth](#)
- December 12: ["Success with Difficult Students" Workshop for Teachers & PSRPs](#)
- December 18: [Healthcare "Compassion Fatigue" Workshop](#)
- January 9: ["Intro to Excel" Training Workshop for All Members](#)
- January 16: ["Roles & Responsibilities for Paraeducators" Workshop](#)
- January 23: [Financial Planning Workshop for All Members](#)
- January 29: [PreK-12 & PSRP "Legal Issues" Training Workshop](#)

## **Featured Benefit**

- Union Plus: [2018 Scholarships](#)