



Union Member - here is your February, 2020 e-newsletter (with updates since early January):

### **[Improving Pay and Benefits for New and Veteran Members Alike](#)**

Our latest report on collective bargaining victories showcases "the union difference" for working people, regardless of how long they've been in the labor movement. [Click here to learn about recent wins at the negotiating table by PreK-12 educators and healthcare professionals.](#)

### **[Learning More About the Role of Hospitals in State and Local Finances](#)** \*

AFT Connecticut's president and the vice president of our affiliated Backus Nurses union interviewed a legislative leader for a podcast episode on budgetary issues. [Click here for Jan Hochadel and Jessica Harris' conversation with state Representative Sean Scanlon on non-profit hospitals.](#)

### **[Making the Case to Lawmakers for Prioritizing the Public Good](#)** \*

State legislative leaders in late January toured UConn Health and heard first-hand from caregivers and support staff concerned about ongoing threats of privatization. [Click here for photos of the event where union members defended the value of Connecticut's only public hospital.](#)

### **[Resisting Policies that "Go Hand-in-Hand with Segregation and Isolation"](#)**

Local and state union leaders in late January reacted to the settlement of the 30-year old *Sheff v. O'Neill, et al.* desegregation lawsuit. [Click here for our report on the ongoing fight against "disinvestment and neglect" of Hartford's traditional neighborhood schools.](#)

### **[Demanding "Justice for Jalene"](#)**

Nurses in mid January organized solidarity actions at Backus Hospital in support of their local union's chief steward who had previously been unjustly terminated. [Click here for photos of members wearing "Justice for Jalene" bracelets ahead of arbitration hearings on the matter.](#)

## **[Standing in Solidarity #4EveryStudent](#)**

Our state federation president in mid January reiterated "our collective responsibility to fund our future" in a letter of support to Florida union leaders. [Click here for our statement of solidarity for legislative action being organized that day in the Sunshine State.](#)

## **[Demonstrating How Collaboration Boosts Student Learning](#)**

Connecticut's education department commissioner in mid January joined state and local union leaders, members and administrators to observe innovation at work in Waterford Public Schools. [Click here for photos of the tour in which educators showed how they're working to empower student learning.](#)

## **[Judging Contracts by "How Much Good they Do"](#)**

A recent report on state employees' 2017 master agreement reinforces the need for policymakers to change how they measure outcomes produced by collective bargaining. [Click here for more on Comptroller Kevin Lembo's analysis of the billions in savings produced by union members.](#)

## **Upcoming Activities & Events**

- February 11: [Financial Planning Workshop for All Members](#)
- February 26: [PreK-12/PSRP Managing Student Behavior Workshop](#)
- February 29: [2020 Legislative Conference](#) \*
- March 3: [PreK-12/PSRP Culturally Responsive Pedagogy Workshop](#)
- March 10-14: [CPR, AED & First Aid Refresher & Full Courses](#)
- March 14-28: [Regional Legislative Meetings](#) (5 Locations) \*
- March 16: [PreK-12/PSRP ADHD Professional Development Workshop](#)
- March 23: [Healthcare "Legal Issues" Training Workshop](#)
- March 24-26: [Share My Lesson 2020 "Virtual Conference"](#)
- March 31: [PreK-12 & PSRP Autism Panel Workshop](#)

## **Featured Benefit**

- AFT: [Scholarships](#)

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\* Includes political info; dues-paying members can change their e-mail update content preferences by sending e-mail to [ActNetReply@aftct.org](mailto:ActNetReply@aftct.org).