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[Demanding a "Fair Share Budget" in 2018](#)

Public employee union leaders are urging state elected officials to make their New Year's resolution to embrace better choices for resolving Connecticut's fiscal challenges. [Click here for a proposed alternative to shifting the burden on to the backs of working families.](#)

[Showing Our Union Pride to All We Serve](#)

Our 30,000 educators and support staff, state employees and health professionals in late December shared a unique public message to mark the holiday season. [Click here to watch the brief video, featuring union members from each of our state federation's diverse constituencies.](#)

[Stepping Up as "Community Champions" for the Holidays](#)

The John J. Driscoll United Labor Agency each November and December coordinates holiday food and toy drives to bring joy to working families in need. [Click here to watch how the Connecticut AFL-CIO's community services organization makes a difference, throughout the year.](#)

[Union Members in the Spotlight](#)

During the annual worldwide observation of Human Rights Month we highlighted an educator who teaches his students "to use their art to create change." [Click here to meet a PreK-12 union member who helps future generations prevent history from repeating itself.](#)

[Remembering "A Day that Has Forever Changed All of Our Lives"](#)

Teachers in Newtown in mid December gathered at a local commemoration of the 26 students and educators killed five years earlier at Sandy Hook Elementary School. [Click here for our local union president's poem dedicated to those who will remain "forever in our thoughts."](#)

[Speaking Out to Protect Students' Opportunities to Learn](#)

Paraeducators in East Hartford in early December turned out for a board of education hearing to denounce proposed staff layoffs and classroom service cuts. [Click here for photos of union members joining local parents and teachers to defend the community's children.](#)

[Tapping Resources to Develop Labor Leaders](#)

New and veteran affiliated union leaders alike this past fall gathered for a course designed to gain skills needed to "effectively represent their members." [Click here for more on the workshop and additional leadership training available through our state and national unions.](#)

[Caregivers from Six States Show What it Means to be Union](#)

Nurses from throughout the northeast last fall traveled to Massachusetts to help their colleagues get the "Patient Safety Act" on the November 2018 ballot. [Click here to watch healthcare union members share the value of recognizing that "safe patient limits save lives."](#)

Upcoming Activities & Events

- 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](#)
- February 6: [PreK-12 & PSRP "Children with Learning Disabilities" Training Workshop](#)
- February 20: ["Grievance" Training for Union Leaders](#)
- March 1: ["Dreamers" DACA Clinic for Educators](#)
- March 13 - 17: [CPR, AED & First Aid Refresher & Full Courses](#)

Featured Benefit

- AFT+: [Robert G. Porter Scholars Program](#)

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