



Matt - here is your July, 2016 e-newsletter (with updates since early-June):

### [Winning a Seat at the Table to Impact Patient Outcomes](#)

The medical and dental assistants at Hartford-based Community Health Services (CHS) in late June voted "Union YES," joining their licensed medical practitioner colleagues in AFT Connecticut. [Click here to learn more about this big win for these vital healthcare workers and the community they serve.](#)

### [A Collective Birthday Party](#)

Backus Hospital nurses gathered on the 5th anniversary of their union election to reflect on what they have won for their profession and their community. [Click here to watch union members share firsthand how being united has been "fantastic for patients."](#)

### [Demanding Action on "Too-Big-To-Fail" Institutions](#)

A report released in late June by our national union on the student debt crisis finds that oversight of for-profit higher education has been "haphazard and incomplete." [Click here to learn more about why regulators must act to protect students and taxpayers alike.](#)

### [CREC School Nurses Uniting in "Sisterhood"](#)

The school nurses of the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) have come together for a strong voice in assuring quality care for their students. [Click here for a photo of the "sisterhood" after urging management voluntarily recognize their choice to form a union.](#)

## [Telling L M Leadership: "It's OUR Health"](#)

Union members are stepping up their advocacy as regulators begin reviewing Yale-New Haven Health Systems' (YNHHS) proposed take-over of Lawrence Memorial (L M) Health. [Click here to sign and share the petition demanding quality, affordable, community-centered care for the region.](#)

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

For June we continued the previous month's conversation about the tremendous challenges facing a state workforce struggling to protect Connecticut's quality of life. [Click here to meet three more public employee union members who have a simple message for politicians; "there must be priorities."](#)

## [Gathering in Strength as a Movement](#)

Delegates from our affiliated locals were among the hundreds who came together in early June for the Connecticut AFL-CIO's biennial political convention. [Click here for photos from the two-day event where the theme was "union members make America great."](#)

## [Helping Members Ease their Higher Ed Debt](#)

Our national union is committed to "eradicate the national student debt epidemic," both at the policy level and one borrower at a time. [Click here to learn more about how AFT is empowering "a new generation of grass-roots activists" to tackle the crisis.](#)

## **Upcoming Activities & Events**

- July 9: ["Fight for \\$15" Hartford Community BBQ](#)
- July 11: [Regulatory Hearing on L M Hospital Take-Over](#)
- July 18 - 21: [AFT 2016 National Convention](#)
- August 6: ["Our Health" Coalition Leadership Training](#)
- August 9: [Congressional/Legislative Primary Election](#)
- August 24: [CT Working Families Cookout & Kickball Tournament](#)

## **Featured Benefit**

- Union Plus: [Travel and Entertainment Discounts for Union Families](#)

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