



Matt - here is your September, 2015 e-newsletter (with updates since late-August):

[Union Members in the Spotlight](#)

State employee union members who assure vital unemployment assistance for job seekers at the Connecticut Department of Labor are themselves facing layoffs. [Click here to meet revenue examiners and accountants concerned that impending cuts will imperil the people they serve getting "the assistance they need."](#)

[Poor Choices with Patient Care Dollars](#)

Chief executive officers (CEOs) of health networks and their lobbyists have asked for a special legislative session in response to recently announced cuts to Medicaid. [Click here for our comments in which we called on them to "lead by example, demonstrate shared sacrifice, and put patients before profits."](#)

[Expanding Access to a Higher Education](#)

Our national union president is among the advisors to the "Heads Up America" campaign to help make community college in America "free and universal." [Click here to learn more about the initiative to empower students to achieve a higher education "without incurring crippling debt."](#)

[Vindication for Healthcare Workers](#)

The National Labor Relations Board has found evidence of illegal conduct by Western Connecticut Health Network (WCHN) managers and their consultants. [Click here for the comments of caregivers at Danbury and New Milford Hospitals who look forward to "voting union 'YES' in a new election."](#)

[Marching for Respect on Labor Day](#)

Union members turned-out in Newtown to support the techs and therapists at Danbury and New Milford Hospitals who "have been there for us, in our time of need." [Click here for highlights and to hear from caregivers and community allies at Connecticut's largest Labor Day parade.](#)

[Child Health Matters](#)

With input from PreK-12 teachers, paraprofessionals and school nurses our national union has launched an initiative to help support students' physical, mental and social well-being. [Click here for AFT's child health survey report and to learn more because "no child should go hungry."](#)

[More than a Test Score](#)

The latest round of standardized assessment results reinforce the need for a "more holistic approach" to assuring positive growth for students than teaching to the test. [Click here for our comments in response to the release of Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium \(SBAC\) scores in Connecticut's public schools.](#)

[A Women's Place is in Her Union](#)

A new report from the Institute for Women's Policy Research documents how "being in a union helps women access the American Dream." [Click here to learn more about how the labor movement is achieving greater equity and closing the gender wage gap.](#)

Upcoming Activities & Events

- September 26: [Rally and Vigil To Protest Labor Dept. Layoffs](#)
- October 1: [SEBAC v. Rowland Lawsuit Settlement Hearing](#)
- October 1: ["How to Strengthen & Run a Local Union" Workshop](#)
- October 13: [Danbury Rising! Healthcare Workers Community Forum](#)
- October 20: [Local Leaders Communications Training - General Strategy](#)
- October 22 - 24: [New England Conf. on Gifted Ed. and Talent Development](#)
- October 29 - 30: [Connecticut AFL-CIO 2015 Constitutional Convention](#)
- October 29: [ULA Reception/Fundraiser & Awards Ceremony](#)
- November 3: [Municipal General Election Day](#)
- November 4: [Local Leaders Communications Training - Websites](#)
- November 7: [PreK-12 Teachers' Pre-Retirement Seminar](#)
- November 9: [Local Leaders Communications Training - Email](#)
- November 17: [CPR, AED & Basic First Aid Refresher](#)
- November 18: [Local Leaders Communications Training - Social Media](#)

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