



BRIGHTER DAYS AHEAD

75th Annual Business Convention
June 4, 2022

Aqua Turf Club
Plantsville, Connecticut

AWARDS

2022 Awards Program

AFT Connecticut Staff Recognition

Local Anniversary Citations

Testifiers/Submitted Testimony

Recognized Members & Organizations

Scholarship Awards

Unionist of the Year

Joseph H. Soifer Award

President's Award



AFT Connecticut Staff Recognition

Kristine Metcalf, Support Staff	20 years
Anna Mowrey, Support Staff.....	10 years
Shane Lancer, Organizer	5 years
Terry Meadows, Field Rep	5 years
Caid Murray, Field Rep/Organizer	5 years





Local Anniversary Citations

Colchester Federation of Teachers.....	55 years
Newtown Federation of Teachers.....	55 years
Norwalk Federation of Teachers.....	55 years
State Vocational Federation of Teachers.....	55 years
Bozrah Federation of Teachers.....	50 years
Hartford Federation of Paraprofessionals.....	50 years
West Haven Federation of Paraprofessionals.....	50 years
Newtown Federation of Education Personnel.....	45 years
Simsbury Federation of Education Personnel.....	45 years
University of Connecticut Professional Employees Assoc.....	45 years
EastConn Federation of Teachers.....	40 years
East Hartford Federation of Paraprofessionals.....	40 years
Windham Federation of Education Personnel.....	30 years
Bristol Professionals & Supervisors Assoc.....	25 years
Lawrence & Memorial Healthcare Workers.....	20 years
Regional School District 18 Non-Certified Personnel.....	15 years
Westbrook Federation of Non-Certified Personnel.....	15 years
Backus Federation of Nurses.....	10 years

2022 Legislative Session Testimony

Administrative & Residual Union, Local 4200

Ally Sexton

Association of CT Assistant Attorneys General, Local 6574

Joan Andrews

Backus Federation of Nurses, Local 5149

Sherri Dayton, RN, BSN, CEN

Mary Dipietro

Nancy Doiron, RN

Amanda Fitzgerald, MSN, RN-OCN

Jessica Harris, RN

Shelly Laibrandt, RN

Angela Leroux, RN

Caitlin Parla, RN

David Pfau, RN

Danbury Nurses Union, Unit 47, Local 5047

Maggie Cleary, RN, BSN

Mary Consoli, RN, BSN (Retired)

Jillian Lamonica, RN

Kathleen Nix, RN

Janice Stauffer, RN, BSN

Federation of Tech Colleges, Local 1942

Diba Khan-Bureau

Managerial & Exempt Employees, Local 6577

Monika Nugent

New Haven Federation of Teachers, Local 933

Leslie Blatteau

Norwalk Federation of Teachers, Local 1723

Mary Yordon

State Vocation Federation of Teachers, Local 4200A

Paul Angelucci

Makenzi Hurtado

Danielle Jones

University Health Professionals, Local 3837

Bill Garrity

Windham Federation of Teachers, Local 1577

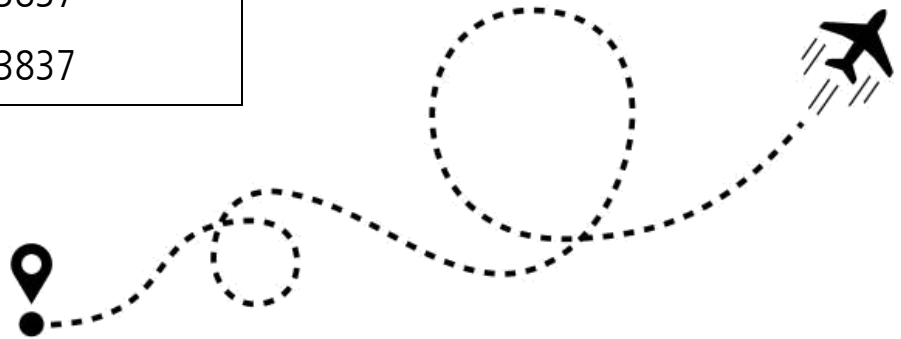
Rose Reyes



Albany Mobilization

Kimberly Bryant Ericson UHP 3837

Summer Lambert UHP 3837



WINDHAM UNITED
TO SAVE OUR
HEALTHCARE COALITION

The **W**indham **U**nited to **S**ave our **H**ealthcare (**WUSH**) is a grassroots coalition of community members and organizations that have been fighting the closure of Windham Hospital's Labor and Delivery Services. Hartford Healthcare closed these services two years ago without gaining state approval through the Certificate of Need process. Nearly 30 members of the coalition testified at the CoN hearing, protested, collected petition signatures and wrote letters.

ORGANIZATIONS:

AFT Connecticut

Planned Parenthood CT & RI

CT Citizen Action Group
(CCAG)

Quiet Corner Shouts

Hartford Organization of
Professional Employees
(HOPE) Unions

The Neighbor Fund

Universal Health Care
Foundation of CT

Generations Family Healthcare

Vota Boricua

NARAL Pro-Choice CT

We the People Willimantic

Northeast Connecticut
Grassroots Group

Windham/Willimantic NAACP





Scholarship Awards

AFT Connecticut awards two different scholarships each year, one for our members (**George C. Springer Scholarship**), and one for spouses/domestic partners, and children of members (**Sharon M. Palmer Scholarship**). Candidates are selected based on academic promise and financial need, among other criteria. The member applicant, or the AFT Connecticut member upon whom the applicant bases their eligibility, must be a member of an AFT Connecticut local in good standing.

George C. Springer Scholarship

CRISTIAN CALLE has been a member of the Hartford Federation of Paraeducators, Local 2221 for 4 years. Cristian is a volunteer in his community and has been nominated as para educator of the year at his school. He is currently a student at CCSU and will be using the scholarship monies to help fulfill his dream of becoming a social worker. Cristian stated in his essay, "I am thankful for all that my union did and their continued efforts during this pandemic. The union did their best to help school staff feel secure in returning safely."

Sharon M. Palmer Scholarship

CAMRYN BURNS is the daughter of Kim Burns, a member of the Meriden Federation of Teachers, Local 1478. Camryn is a volunteer in her community and is also a four-year member of the tennis and swim team, along with being a part of the Leo Club and Student Council. Camryn has been accepted to several colleges and is looking into majoring in Psychology or Sociology. Camryn states in her essay, "Being part of a union is crucial for workers' representation. It allows for changes to be made and for workers' to be heard."

AFT Connecticut Scholarship

TYLER KNIGHT HARRISON is the son of Trent Harrison, Newtown Federation of Teachers, Local 1727. Tyler is an active member of his church's Youth Group, an active Scout and is one of the captains and handler of the Ultimate Frisbee Team at school. Tyler plans on attending Bowling Green State University in Ohio where he will major in Flight Operations and Aviation. He also plans on joining the pilot's union. Tyler states in his essay, "What I experienced in Newtown schools after that day in December showed me one of the greatest benefits of being in a Union, and that is the support that Union members provide to one another, as one large family."

*Congratulations, and best wishes to
all of our scholarship winners!*

Congrats!

Unionist of the Year Award

Marta Shepard—Hartford Federation of Paraprofessionals #2221

Marta was hired in 1989 by the Hartford BOE. This is her 32nd year. She started as a preschool para and shortly after a Bilingual Office Assistant. Her talents as a visionary and artist are an asset in the classroom. Marta is a team player always collaborating with her co-workers creating theme ideas for appropriate developmental lessons. Marta is a Special Education Para and enjoys implementing her ideas from years of training and life experiences.

Marta believes in leading by example. She attends most meetings, programs and conferences, to meet the needs of our diverse membership. In 2016 she attended several Train the Trainer workshops led by AFT in Detroit Michigan. Her enthusiasm to show up to meetings and willingness to help others is why she was picked to train for Political Boot Camp in 2018. Marta was fearless when she went to New Mexico and joined their election mobilizing members through labor walks, "Hustle and Minivan app" to door knock to their members.

Marta knows the importance of collective bargaining. This influenced her to educate and advocate for the Union Members. Marta is a committed leader. She was a building rep for 7 years. Marta is now the Executive V.P. of the Hartford Federation of Paraeducators. She servers on the LPAC committee. She is a member of the PSRP council and has completed AFT CT's Member Organizing Institute and volunteers as a Member Organizer for AFT-CT., an active member of the GHLC And ECALF.

Marta has worked closely with the Executive Board of HFP2221, in Post card writing, speaking at public hearings, candidate interviews, labor walks and phone banks. During the pandemic she went to and made sure our new members filled out Union cards. Marta will continue until her task are done.

Marta's ability to help others to be their best and inspire them to become prouder, stronger, and have their voices heard is a testament to activism and Unity.

Congrats!

Joseph H. Soifer Award

Monika Nugent—Managerial & Exempt Employees United #6577

You know you have a special member when a person commits countless hours and tremendous energy to a movement that, in this case, was never likely to produce the very things most of us think of when we think of unions: collective bargaining and a union contract.

Monika Lazauskas Nugent has given her all to build M+E into a relevant labor organization. For those of you unfamiliar with M+E (which stands for Managerial and Exempt Employees United), your fellow AFT CT local is the only one without a union contract. That's because collective bargaining is restricted for certain state employees, including many managers, appointees, and other exempt staff.

M+E has attempted to change those laws, but in the meantime Monika and her fellow members have shown that at the end of the day, collective action is what defines true unionism. M+E has found creative ways to advance issues that matter most to members: pay equity, retention, professional development, and respect.

I have worked with Monika for over three years now. I have seen her dedication time and time again. Whether testifying at the Legislature to help advance a crucial study bill, conducting work-site visits to recruit new members, or researching how proposed changes (good or bad) could affect her members, Monika has done it all. It is with a heavy but grateful collective heart that we say goodbye as she begins a new chapter with the Murphy campaign. And it is our collective honor to present her with this award today.

Submitted by Eric Borlaug, AFT CT Director of Organizing

Congrats!

President's Award

Ivonne Hamm—University Health Professionals #3837

Ivonne, who is retiring this year, currently serves as 1st Vice President of UHP Local 3837 and as an AFT Connecticut Vice President and a CT AFL-CIO Vice President, and Bristol Area Labor Federation Treasurer. In the past, she served as UHP Recording Secretary.

Ivonne is active with the Connecticut Black Trade Unionists and has served on the AFT CT Healthcare council and LPAC. She is a regular participant in the AFL-CIO political door knocking campaigns, regularly gives testimony at the state capital, and has walked many, many picket lines. She is an active in contract negotiations for her local and has served as 1st VP of collective bargaining.

Ivonne participated in a round table discussion with President Biden and this spring was invited to the White House when both President Biden and President Obama attended, as well as VP Harris, for the signing of an executive order strengthening the Affordable Care Act.

For her lifetime commitment to the Labor movement, Ivonne is this year's President's Award winner.

***Congratulations and best wishes
to our awards recipients!***

