

APR 26  
2017

# UNION UPDATE

## LAPS GRADUATES BUILDING POWER FOR WORKERS



Our union is building power for workers by mentoring and training new stewards. On April 12, nine of our members completed six months of intensive training and graduated from our Leadership Apprenticeship for Stewards Program (LAPS).

Local 1000 stewards are members who have stepped up to be stronger leaders in our union. They amplify our voices and connect our members to build unity and strength across the state.

LAPS gives our stewards the tools they need to succeed. LAPS is a six-month program in which steward candidates take extensive online courses, interactive in-person trainings, and mentorship opportunities.

In just over two years, LAPS has added 250 certified union stewards to our ranks. Classes begin quarterly and, at any given time, three different groups of members are receiving training.

“Stewards are the foundation of our union,” said Tamekia N. Robinson, Vice President for Organizing/Representation. “They are at the center of our Worksite Action Teams and on the front lines of engaging and empowering members to take action for a stronger union.”

***If you are interested in learning more about LAPS or would like to inquire about becoming a steward, visit:***

**[www.seiu1000.org/become-steward](http://www.seiu1000.org/become-steward)**

### MEMBER PROFILES

#### LAPS GRADUATES AMANDA STIFFLER AND CHRISTINA TY READY TO STEP UP

For Amanda Stiffler and Christina Ty, becoming a union steward meant becoming an advocate for their jobs, their coworkers and their communities.

They entered the LAPS program six months ago because they felt it was important to know their contract better. Working at DSH, Stockton, as RNs, they found themselves wanting to do more for themselves and their fellow nurses.

“We were surprised to learn just how much our union does,” said Stiffler, who’s been working for the state for six years. “Our responsibility as stewards goes beyond our workplace and reaches

into other buildings, other departments and bargaining units as well. If they need us, we’re there.”

Christina Ty looks forward to advocating for her community as well. “I’ve learned how we can use the power of our members to make things happen outside the job, to really fulfill our union’s purpose statement.”

Amanda and Christina are returning to their workplace excited to help their fellow members take action. “We can get things done when we do it together,” they said. “We win when members get educated and get engaged.”



**Amanda Stiffler**  
RN at DSH, Stockton  
2017 LAPS Graduate



**Christina Ty**  
RN at DSH, Stockton  
2017 LAPS Graduate

# UNION INFORMATION

## Resource Center

Monday-Friday  
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
866.471.SEIU (7348)

Website  
seiu1000.org

## Connect with Local 1000

Facebook  
facebook.com/seiu1000

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## CONTRACT TRAINING HELPS STEWARDS BUILD WORKPLACE POWER



Our job stewards—more than 1000 strong—are working to learn the details of our new contract and how to use it as a tool to build member power.

“We’re preparing for the challenges ahead—at-tacks on the rights and benefits we’ve worked so hard to achieve. We can only fight back when our members engage and stand together,” said Dorrie Steadman, an RN working in San Diego and a member of the Unit 17 bargaining team.

Our stewards across the state are receiving comprehensive training about organizing their fellow members as well as the advances we made during bargaining and enforcing our contract rights.

Our contract delivered on each of the four priorities identified by members: Increased compensation, better working conditions, greater opportunity for upward mobility and improvements in leaves and health and safety.

Our stewards will work with Worksite Action Teams to inform and engage our members to build the solidarity we need to enforce our rights and fight for social, economic and environmental justice.

### Join a Worksite Action Team:

Contact your job steward or  
call the Member Resource Center at  
866.471.7348 (SEIU).



## JOIN A MAY DAY RESISTANCE MARCH!

Each May 1st—International Worker’s Day—labor and community groups celebrate our achievements and stand together in solidarity for social, economic and environmental justice. On May 1, participate in Resistance Marches and stand against the dangerous policies that threaten our families and our communities.

**SACRAMENTO:** Join workers and activists for a march at 10:00 a.m. at Southside Park, ending with a rally on the West Steps of the Capitol.

**LOS ANGELES:** The “Resist Los Angeles” march and rally begins at 11:00 a.m. at MacArthur Park and concludes in front of City Hall.

**SAN FRANCISCO:** May Day activities begin with a 11:00 a.m. march at Justin Herman Plaza and conclude with a 2:00 p.m. rally at the Civic Center.

**FRESNO:** A 5:00 p.m. rally at Fresno Courthouse Park.

**RIVERSIDE:** March and rally at Fairmount Park, starting at 10:00 a.m.

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY:** May Day Global Day of Action in Concord: march at 5:00 p.m. at Meadow Homes Park; rally at 6:00 p.m. at Todos Santos Plaza.

**SALINAS:** Rally at 10:00 a.m., Cesar Chavez Park.

**SANTA ROSA:** Rally and march, 12:00 p.m. at Bertolini Quad, Santa Rosa Junior College.