

General Government

Steven Yates – Institutions (Rainier School)



I have just begun my eighteenth year as an employee with the State of Washington. I am an Attendant Counselor 3 at Rainier School in Buckley, Washington. I am a Shop Steward and a board member, and I am eager to join the bargaining team and fight for worker's rights!

Dianne Womack – Institutions (Eastern State Hospital)

Good Day C28 Siblings,

My name is Dianne Womack and I work at ESH as a Custodian 1. I have been a Member since 2000 and have been actively defending and representing our Members since 2007. I am running for the WFSE GG Contract Bargaining Team because I believe EVERYONE deserves a voice at the table. I would like to be that voice. I believe we need people that are going to fight for what is needed and deserved for EVERY Member. I intend to fight to the last letter. During negotiations is when we need to show a strong and unified face to Management and to not give up anything in order to get pittance. WFSE Members need and deserve someone that has their back and will stand up for the BEST Contract we can bargain for not settle for what we can get. We deserve more.

When you receive your ballot in the mail or in an email, please put your mark where it will mean something, where it will get what we deserve as members. Vote for me and I will not let you down. I will fight for YOU! Thank you my Brothers and Sisters for your vote!

Dianne Womack
WFSE C28 Local 782 ESH

Nate Wilson – Institutions (JR)

Hello union sisters and brothers, my name is Nate Wilson I am a security officer at Echo Glen Children Center. I have been with Echo Glen a little over a year. I came from Harborview Medical Center where I worked for 18 years.

I have been a Chief shop steward for about 8 years and a shop steward for about 13 years. I served on the executive board for 9 years. I have been on two bargaining teams because of the demand by my peers and immediate co-workers, who desired specifically to nominate me. I have no problem standing up for what is right and equal for all.

I have a zeal and a passion for respect, fairness, and equality for everyone. During my time on each past bargaining teams, we achieved to move the pay scale up for ALL union members, we changed the contract language, so that it would have more teeth for the benefit of supporting all of our union members, also we put safety for workers back to number one. I am the voice for the voiceless, and I base my personal morals and character on integrity, accountability, trust and follow through. If I am nominated to the bargaining team, I will do my best to achieve all or most of the needs of the union sisters and brothers.

Also, you can trust me and be assured there will be transparency and clear communication to ALL union members, so that everyone is on same page with a clear understanding of what is going on during and after the bargaining session. Because without trust, transparency, dedicated team work and clear communication to our union membership, the bargaining team will not be effective in reaching all of our goals for our new contract. Let me be a part of elevating our union power and our union strength, which is the core of our union foundation.

Thank you,
Nate Wilson

Jason Molzahn – Institutions (Rainier School)

I'm here to fight for what the members deserve and need.

In Solidarity,
Jason

Adam Whaley – Institutions (Fircrest)

My name is Adam Whaley. I am running for a position in the General Government Bargaining Team. If elected to the bargaining team, I will push for the contract demands that our members have put forth. As a card carrying Union member of both Teamsters Local 174 with UPS for over 25 years and for WFSE 341 for over 4 years, I feel I am in a unique position to benefit the bargaining team. With awareness of contracts from two different industries, I will potentially find creative ways to address contract demands that others on the team cannot.

Employees deserve strong representation and increased rights in their work environments. Work life balance and fair compensation for a fair day's work are measures I want for all WSFE members.

Please vote for the candidate that represents you most. I hope that candidate is me.

Thank you,
Adam Whaley, Occupational Therapist
Fircrest RHC

Graeme Lauer – Institutions (Eastern State Hospital)

Thank you for considering me to represent us all on the next General Government Bargaining Team. I would be honored and humbled to be entrusted with the negotiations which determine much of our futures working for the state. I look forward to listening to your concerns and priorities so that we can all find more gratification and security in our employment.

I became interested in this role working as an Occupational Therapist for Eastern State Hospital and seeing how difficult it has been to attract additional talented and skilled healthcare workers due to dramatic disparities in compensation. I have worked in unionized positions before which afforded great benefits *and* competitive wages—two things which should not be mutually exclusive. Considering the essential nature of all of our jobs during the current pandemic, our hard work deserves to be recognized by the state and compensated appropriately. I will passionately pursue a more equitable collective agreement for state workers at all levels. Thanks again for your consideration.

Kym Adams – Institutions (DSHS DDA)

Hi! I am Kym Adams. Below is my background experience and what I can bring to the table.

UMCC (Union Management Communications Committee): 2007 - current

Local 843: Executive Board, two terms, Secretary Treasurer, three terms, Recording Secretary, beginning first term Oct 2021

Shop Steward 2018 - current

Council 28 Executive Board: 2019-2021

Proud, Active PEOPLE Member

LPAC (Legislative Political Action Committee) 2019 - current

AFSCME PEOPLE Award recipient 2021

As a UMCC representative (Union Management Communications Committee), I have learned how to gather issues and concerns from the field and come up with viable solutions. Prior to DDA returning to the field during the pandemic, I assisted in developing statewide DDA summits to ensure staff had everything they needed to safely resume field work. In doing so, I also assisted another agency in advocating for their own safety needs and made sure they had proper PPE, as I firmly believe an injury to one worker is an injury to ALL workers.

In all of my various roles, I have made sure that I maintain communication with the workers I am representing in order to be transparent. I keep workers informed of decisions made and help organize any actions that need to be taken, including through organizing and hosting lunch and learns. If chosen to represent you on the General

Government Contract, I promise to keep members informed of bargaining updates, be available, and will continue to be a strong advocate for Institutions.

Sincerely,
Kym Adams
WFSE Member 2004 – current

Cindy Hall – Institutions (Lakeland Village)

I have been member and activist for over 30 years and have held offices of president of two separate locals, a Shop Steward, Secretary and Vice President. I have served on the Institution's Policy Committee representing Eastern State Hospital and now Lakeland Village an RSC for several years. In a nutshell, I have accumulated experience and knowledge of our CBA. I want to use all my experience in knowing the CBA and put it to use for you. I strongly believe we need to make changes to the CBA and now is that time.

This is the time that we need to upgrade many of our job classes from the Trades at CSS/MOD to our members at SOLA and member classes at the RSCs. There are recruitment and retention problems, mandatory overtime issues and many more difficulties throughout our RSCs. I know those problems and issues because you as members have come to me and expressed those issues. I would greatly appreciate your vote. Lastly, I thank you for all your hard work being on the front lines against COVID.

Rick Hertzog – Institutions (Western State Hospital)

I have previously represented Institutions on four of the last five bargaining teams. I understand the process involved and actually enjoy it. I come prepared for the hours of intense work but also for the lulls that occur between the back and forth when proposals are traded. Over the times I have been on the teams before there are numerous ideas that have been rejected by management and I remember them quite well. There were some from my first year on the team that were initially rejected, such as MHT's being paid at the PSA rate when working as a PSA, that were accepted by management at later contracts. There are others such as our MHT5's making less than LPN4's even though they are required to hold an LPN license to perform their duties, And I intend to address this on this team if elected. While it only covers a small number of people it is equally important to me as many others that involve far more people.

I am here to represent all of our members, I may be an MHT but I believe that all of our members deserve the best contract that we can bargain. I believe in locality pay for our members who live in high cost areas. I believe that our lowest paid members deserve to make more than a burger flipper at a fast food restaurant, considering the dangers those of us face working in institutions. I believe that those of us working for the state are the back bone of our state and it's past time for the state to recognize this not by words, but through financially supporting us. It's not like the money we earn doesn't support the state's economy.

So in closing, I would appreciate your vote during this election.

Rick Hertzog

Laurel Trammell – Institutions

Laurel Trammell, Local 948 (they/them)

I am on the team of a smaller agency within DSHS known as the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; our agency has minimal representation within Council 28. My mother worked for DVR for 15 years before beginning her work at DDA, and before this my Dad had been a union represented janitor at the University of Arkansas, taking me to several union rallies and protests. I recently began the role of treasurer with my local. Prior to this I served 2 years on the state-wide E-Board and during that time I was on the Communications Committee.

During my time on E-Board I worked to strengthen my skills in genuine curiosity, learning new ways to hear different perspectives and reflecting upon multiple opposing viewpoints. I was active in anti-racism work within E-Board and focused on showing respect for all members. I know when to speak up to be heard, but also when to step back so that others can be heard as well. I am running for a seat on the Bargaining Committee because I believe that my agency, and those like it, must be more involved. I am passionate, team-oriented, and ready to be a tool for change.