

### **AFSCME IN ACTION**

Member Newsletter | May 2024



Pictured: Baltimore Museum of Industry's new exhibit titled: "Collective Action: Labor Activism in 21st Century Baltimore" (Source: WYPR)

MESSAGE FROM AFSCME MARYLAND PRES. PATRICK MORAN

# Fighting for Working People Today, Tomorrow, and Beyond

This month, the Baltimore Museum of Industry unveiled a new exhibition titled "Collective Action: Labor Activism in 21st Century Baltimore" that is dedicated to celebrating Baltimore's working people and our labor movement.

Baltimore has always been a union town. And these days, our union movement includes all kinds of workers who do important jobs that make the city vibrant and special. The exhibit's collection actually features pieces from fellow AFSCME members who work at the Walters Art Museum, the Baltimore Museum of Art, the Maryland Office of the Public Defender, and more!

I highly recommend taking some time to see the exhibit and to learn more about what Baltimore's working people are fighting for and how workers are winning in their workplaces. See you there!

- AFSCME Maryland Council 3 President Patrick Moran



## **Knowing Our Rights and Protecting Our Union Contracts**

Congratulations to our newest stewards in Western Maryland! Earlier this month, we held an two-day, indepth Stewards in Action training at Frostburg State University, where members familiarized themselves with our union contracts, practiced representing our coworkers, and learned how to organize together for better working conditions.

Stewards are the backbone of our union, so if this is something you're interested in doing, start going to your local meetings, familiarizing yourself with your union contract, and getting to know the issues that your coworkers are facing at work. And keep an eye out for an upcoming steward training near you!

## CALLING ALL STATE SUPERVISORS (UNIT S): VOTE YES FOR AFSCME!

Vote YES today, so we can start working towards a contract that gives us the respect and dignity we deserve!

Vote YES: bit.ly/sups-yes





#### **AFSCME Members in Action**

- Earlier this year, Howard County Public Schools proposed shortsighted staffing cuts that included grounds and maintenance employees represented by AFSCME. After speaking out and organizing, we've successfully **saved all 9 jobs** from being cut!
- On May 22, City of Salisbury workers voted 100% in favor of ratifying the city's **first union contract** for general government employees. Congratulations to our union siblings in Salisbury for a historic milestone!
- On May 17, AFSCME Local 44 and AFSCME Local 558 members held their **annual in-service day** in our Solidarity Hall. We had a packed program filled with great speakers and interesting topics, and it was a great opportunity to learn from one another!
- Earlier this month, AFSCME Local 44 President Dorothy Bryant and our Legislative Director Denise Gilmore attended a **bill signing ceremony** for HB 1509 and SB 896. HB 1509 will allow us to have a say on the Baltimore Regional Water Taskforce, and SB 896 will allow us to have a voice in the future of the Baltimore Convention Center
- AFSCME members who work in Baltimore's cultural institutions had a great time at the American Alliance of Museums Annual Meeting, which happened to take place in the city this year!
- Congratulations to our very own AFSCME Local 3661 President Rayneika Robinson on her graduation from **Emerge Maryland's Candidate Training Program** at the end of April! The program is an in-depth, months-long training program that prepares participants to run for public office. Now, Rayneika joins an amazing group of alumni from the program, including state legislators and even Comptroller Brooke Lierman and Lieutenant Governor Aruna Miller.

### **Upcoming Events**

Free Student Debt Informational Clinic Tuesday, June 4 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Enoch Pratt Central Library's France-Merrick Creative Arts Center (2nd Floor) 400 Cathedral St, Baltimore, MD 21201

**Southern Region Stewards Training** *Thursday, June 13 & Friday, June 14* 

Poor PEOPLE's Campaign March & Assembly

Saturday, June 29 at 9:30 AM

Meeting Location for AFSCME members: 4th St. NW & Madison Dr. NW



Learn more at:
www.afscmemd.org/afscme-3/calendar-

#### **Member Spotlight: Danielle Dorsey**

As a lead custodian at the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) for nearly 30 years, AFSCME Local 3376 President Danielle Dorsey works to keep the campus buildings clean and safe for the students, staff, and faculty. "I do this work because I love helping people, and this job gives me a paycheck and benefits that help me pay my bills and take care of my family," says Danielle.

She first got involved with her union local because she was tired of the management at the time bullying staff and attempting to take things away from her union contract. "I wanted to be a part of the solution and not the problem," says Danielle. "I love helping the lowest paid people at the college be seen and heard and respected. I see myself as a bridge between staff and management."



Pictured: Danielle Dorsey

Her local's latest win is a clear example of what happens when workers stand together. Their wage negotiations with the college has resulted in record pay increases that will go into effect in the coming months. "Management didn't like that we took charge of the meetings and because of that, we won more than I ever could have expected," she says. "My takeaway is this: the more people who join, the more management sees that we're serious about our jobs and our work. The stronger we are, the more things we will win. And the more things we win, the more we make CCBC a better place to work."