THE SEA

Advocating for working people and their families in New Hampshire.

MORE GREAT CONTENT INSIDE:
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In Memorium...

September 11th of this year marks the 20th anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center, the attack on the Pentagon, and the hijacking of Flight 93 by Al-Qaeda. Many Americans remember the day vividly, at first hearing that a plane had hit the North Tower and thinking it was accidental. Then at 9:03 AM, when a giant fireball erupted out of the South Tower on live television, it was clear to everyone that this was not an accident.

The Twin Towers and the Pentagon were not just symbols of the United States that were targeted, they were places of business, people’s workplaces, and on September 11th, 2001, 62 SEIU members perished in the attacks.

We want to take a moment to remember them by listing their names below and acknowledging the loss of their lives on what they thought would be just another day.

Gone but not forgotten
Join us on September 18, 2021, for the SEA 5K Road Race & Fitness Walk

LAST CALL, RUNNERS NEEDED!

Saturday, September 18th at 9:00 am is the 28th Annual SEA 5K Road Race when net proceeds go directly to Operation Santa Claus.

This year, the SEA 5K is the eighth and final race of the Capital Area Race series and it is our goal to have Members show their support and strength by participating. SEA members receive a discounted rate of $15 until Thursday, September 16th at 9am. Register now, before the rates go to full price.

- $25.00 - Adults
- $15.00 - students
- $10.00 - youth (ages ten and under)

There is a Chapter competition and we would love to see you on the leaderboard. Previous chapters on the leaderboard have been Environmental Services, the Division of Public Health, and DOT, to name a few. We also have a Chapter competition on who raises the most for this incredible cause through www.pledgereg.com/sea-5k. The latest results show the Keene Area Chapter with $200 raised.

By logging into the www.seiu1984.org website, the link to the SEA 5K Road Race and Fitness Walk is under the events tab. Additionally, there is the link to sign up by selecting www.runreg.com/sea-5k.

Friday, September 17th, in-person registration will be at Runner's Alley from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM. There will be no race day registration. The race promptly starts at 9 am.
Registration is now open!

Registration is due by September 30th.

The 2021 Convention for members of SEA/SEIU 1984 is scheduled for Saturday, October 16th, 2021.

Like last year, **the convention will be virtual**, making it easier for members to participate in their Union.

- Registration is due by **September 30th**

This year we will be giving all who attend a **NEW SEA rain jacket**, pictured below.

*For all convention forms, go to seiu1984.org/convention-2021/*

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**MEMBER ELECTION BUDDY AND ZOOM TRAINING**

Training for convention attendees.

**September 14th @ 12 noon.**

*ElectionBuddy*

Run-It-Yourself or Fully Managed Elections. Powerful, Easy-To-Use, and Amazingly Flexible. Elections is our first name and democracy is in our DNA. See how the process works.

**Enabling the Hybrid Workforce**

Explore how the Zoom platform seamlessly brings together remote and in-person teams, for work that goes wherever you do. Explore hybrid solutions.
"FOR THE PEOPLE ACT" PRESS CONFERENCE ANNOUNCED

The voting rights coalition, along with other allies, are putting together a press conference to support the "For the People Act."

If you’d like information on attending, please see below.

This is it. We are expecting the final push to pass the For the People Act during the week of September 13th. To mark this critical moment, a diverse coalition of organizations are planning a large press conference for Monday, September 13th at 10:30 am in Manchester outside the Millie the Mill Girl statue.

In order to send the loudest message possible to our Senators that we appreciate their efforts to pass the For the People Act and urge them to do whatever it takes to get this over the finish line, we are looking for the broadest possible coalition of partners. Every issue we care about and our ability to make progress on those issues depends on free and fair elections and rooting out the corrupting influence of dark money.

If you are a leader of an organization, please fill out this form to sign on in support of this press conference. As a signer, you will receive information about the press conference, and your organization’s name will be listed as a co-host of the press conference.


Virtual Labor Event

Join us on September 15th at 9:00 AM for a virtual labor event featuring Congressman Chris Pappas and Congresswoman Ann Kuster who will join representatives of the labor community for a conversation about how they're working to advance the cause of organized Labor in Washington DC. This event is intended to be an open and welcoming conversation with our Congressional Delegation.

Though the initial hope was that this could be an in-person event, uncertainty surrounding the Delta variant of COVID-19 has lead to the event being conducted online with hopes that we can all join together safely soon.

The registration can be found here: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIvf-irrjsvHNN2c8BPvBDzZX8NP4b6C4_k

We hope you'll consider joining!
**Bi-Annual Strategic Surveys**

The SEA started conducting its bi-annual strategic assessment earlier this year. As a member-driven organization, we must hear from a diverse representation of the membership. So many of you have offered, and while we know how engaged you are and appreciate your assistance, we are looking for those of you who have not responded. We need to hear from you so that we become a better union to serve you!

With that in mind, we will be conducting 20-minute interviews and need approximately 20 more volunteers from our membership. As a small token of ‘thanks,’ member-participants will receive a $5 gift card and be entered to win a $100 gift card. If you're interested in participating, please email comms@seiu1984.org today.

**How to Help Our Afghan Allies**

Our friends are fleeing for their lives. They need your support.

The events of the past few weeks have added renewed urgency to our continued commitment to build inclusive communities and support immigrant communities who are seeking safety, freedom, and a better life. In Haiti, thousands have been lost and injured, and survivors continue to grapple with the devastation of the 7.2-magnitude earthquake. In Afghanistan, families young and old are desperately and courageously trying to escape Taliban rule.

We have a moral obligation to care for all those who come to our communities seeking refuge -- whether they're fleeing war, religious persecution, natural and man-made climate disasters, the absence of true opportunity, or all of the above.

We are calling for volunteers to support incoming Afghan Allies and Special Immigrant Visa holders evacuated to the United States. Afghan Allies are currently arriving in Massachusetts; however, we want to be ready to welcome these families wherever they go!

If you can volunteer your time to help with services like airport pick-ups, apartment set-ups, or bringing a meal, please go to the following website to sign-up. https://www.tfaforms.com/4928044

Volunteers will be contacted as needed, and we expect a continued need for volunteer support in the months ahead. Please note that our partners on the ground are working quickly to adapt and catch up with the many applicants we have seen in recent weeks. We thank you for your patience and dedication to our Afghan allies.

For more information on how you can help, please visit https://lirsconnect.org/get_involved/action_center/siv?cs-from=679c0b11-db43-4cf7-87e9-7837ebafe8c5.
A union steward is a union representative and an employee of an organization or company who represents and defends the interests of their fellow employees.

The role of the union steward is to represent the bargaining unit employees, commonly referred to as the “rank-and-file” and to be a link and conduit of information between the rank-and-file and the union leadership.

We are offering Steward Training for the fall with the class below.

OUR NEXT TRAINING CLASS IS:

**OCTOBER 21, 2021 - DURING STEWARD COMMITTEE MEETING**

For more information, please visit our website at:

**CONTRACT INTERPRETATION TRAINING OCTOBER 21, 2021 @ 5:30 PM**

THIS TRAINING WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM. EMAILS WILL BE SENT TO ALL STEWARDS AT THE BEGINNING OF OCTOBER.

NO RESERVATIONS ARE NEEDED.

"The purpose of interpretation as justice requireth is always the discovery of actual intention:—the intentions of both parties if they are the same,—the actual intention of one party if the other knew or had reason to know what it was,—but absolutely never to give effect to a meaning of words that neither party in fact gave them, however many other people might have given them that meaning."

*Carlton J. Snow, Professor of Law and Executive Director, Center for Dispute Resolution*
Important Information You Need to Know

In the beginning of 2021, the contractor that administers the State employee health care plan (Anthem BCBS) moved to a new electronic billing system. Due to the unique nature of the State employee plan and some limitations of the new system, issues occurred with correctly administering the benefits. State employees have been reporting problems with being overbilled for copays and deductibles. Members are also experiencing problems with the Anthem Customer Service Line for NH State Employees. When calling they have received confusing and incorrect billing and payment information. This is also due to the new billing system. In response to these problems, Anthem has assigned a special team of employees to manually audit and correct the State health plan billing errors. These audits are ongoing and some members may receive updated billing statements from their medical providers and from Anthem.

The new contract between the SEA and the State provides a specific health care benefit for bargaining unit members. The SEA has been in contact with the NH Department of Administrative Services to be sure that the negotiated health plan is administered correctly by Anthem. There will be additional administrative steps taken to be sure that all billing errors are fixed and the members receive the agreed-upon benefits.

Monthly Webinar Series

Learning how to stay healthy: Adult vaccinations

We provide brief education on the monthly topic through these webinars, recognize signs and symptoms, assist in goal setting to improve your overall wellness, and share what benefits and resources are available. Webinar login information can be found below. All September webinars run on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at noon.

Wellness Webinar Log in Information:

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer or the mobile app: Click here to join the meeting.
Join with a video conferencing device: anthem@m.webex.com

Video Conference ID: 119 854 225 8
Alternate VTC dialing instructions

Or call in (audio only) +1 567-249-1745,,344028488# United States, Toledo Phone Conference ID: 344 028 488#
Part of staying healthy, especially going into the fall and winter seasons, is making sure you have your preventive screenings such as your annual physical as we discussed in last month’s newsletter. Part of staying healthy includes being vaccinated.

Many adults are unaware that vaccinations are part of our overall health prevention and are not just for kids. Vaccines help all of us stay health, prevent contagious diseases, decrease severity of illnesses and even prevent death from certain diseases. Vaccines are also very heavily researched and recommended by the Centers of Disease Control (CDC) at different intervals through our lives. Vaccines are important to help give our immune systems the tools it needs to fight off different bacteria and viruses when we are exposed to them. They make our immune system stronger.

One of the most important vaccines this time of year is influenza (flu). Many agencies are currently scheduling flu clinics and will be advertising the dates they are available between September and December. You also have many other resources available to you in order to receive a flu vaccine. (see below).
JOIN THE GREAT BARRIER REEF CHALLENGE!

The Great Barrier Reef Challenge begins on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, and ends on Thursday, September 30, 2021.

- The team sign-up period is Monday, August 16, 2021, through Monday, September 6, 2021.
- Create or join a team of up to 10 people. Together, your goal is to walk a minimum of 2,500,000 total steps; but keep going if you reach that goal!
- Log your steps by linking your activity device to Mobile Health.
- Enter your activity manually if: you don't have a supported activity device or want to track activities other than walking. If entering step activity manually, you will be limited to 3 days grace period.
- The maximum number of steps you can log each day is 30,000.
COMMITTEES MAKING A COMEBACK FOR THE FALL

Our committees are making a fall comeback after taking a short break over the summer. If you are interested in joining or attending a committee meeting, please reference the schedule below.

- CFPG will now meet on the first Tuesday of every other month at 5:30 PM. The next meeting will be on November 2, 2021. Join us if you can!

- Social Activities Committee will now meet on the first Monday of the month from 5-6 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for September 13 @ 5:00 PM.

- The Social Activities Book Club will meet on the first Monday of the month at 6:00 PM, immediately following the Social Activities Meeting. The next meeting will be on September 13 @ 6:00 PM.

- NH Faith & Labor Coalition meets on the third Wednesday of the Month at 12; the next meeting is on September 15, 2021.

- Clinicians United NH, Associate Members Chapter meets at noon on the first Monday of the month; the next meeting is on October 4th.

- Road Race Committee meets on the third Wednesday of every month from 5:00 – 7:00 PM; the next meeting is September 15 @ 5:00 PM.
  - The ROAD RACE is scheduled for Saturday, September 18, 2021. Start time 9:00 AM at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH.

- Conservative Committee meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM; the next meeting is September 14th, 2021.

- The Organizing Committee meets on the first Wednesday of every month; the next meeting is on October 6th @ 5:00 PM.

- The Board of Directors meets on the first Thursday of each month, the next Board of Directors Meeting is September 9 from 1:00 - 5:00 PM.
Are you an imaginative and creative person who wants to share new skills with your peers in a fun and safe environment? One hour a month is all you need to engage with others and expand your horizons while having a good time. The goal is to improve relationships with different agencies to foster goodwill and positivity.

Please contact Rebecca Ladd at 581-5977 (texting is best) for more details if you're interested.

Some of the fun things we are already doing include: Casino Trips, Camping trips, Bookclubs, Game nights, Movie nights, Committee meetings, Decorating the office, Planning new and fun adventures, Motorcycle club, Holiday parties, Appreciation BBQ.

This committee is a great escape from home life and/or work (but it doesn't have to be that for you). Join me to learn about your fellow state employees and build on your networking skills.

Check out our latest events below and text Rebecca Ladd if you are interested in participating!

**Upcoming Events**

**BIKE RUN & BBQ**
Historical and scenic stops throughout.

RIDE TO THE FALLEN MEMORIAL
CHECK IN STARTS AT 8:00 AM
NEW HAMPTON PARK & RIDE (ROUTE 14, JUST OFF EXIT 25)
SAFETY MEETING 8:30, RIDE STARTS UP AT 9:30.

Contact Rebecca Ladd for details TBD, contact Rebecca Ladd for more info. at 581-5977 (texting is best).

**Sea Fall Camping Trip**

**Home is where you park it!**

**Fall Camper Weekend**
October 22 – 24, 2021
Ellacoya RV’s and campers only - no tents or auxiliary shelters are allowed. Hiking • River Trekking • Adventure Games • Treasure Hunts • and more. TO REGISTER PLEASE CONTACT REBECCA LADD (TEXTING IS BEST) AT 581-5977.
The world has changed around seventy-nine-year-old librarian Millicent Carmichael, aka Missy. Though quick to admit that she often found her roles as a housewife and mother less than satisfying, Missy once led a bustling life driven by two children, an accomplished and celebrated husband, and a Classics degree from Cambridge.

Now her husband is gone, her daughter is estranged after a shattering argument, and her son has moved to his wife's native Australia, taking Missy's beloved only grandchild half-a-world away. She spends her days sipping sherry, avoiding people, and rattling around in her oversized, under-decorated house waiting for...what exactly?

The next book club meeting will be on September 12th due to the labor day holiday falling on the first Monday of the month. The meeting will be at 6:00 pm, and the next book of choice to read is The Love Story of Missy Carmichael by Beth Morrey. Filled with wry laughter and deep insights, The Love Story of Missy Carmichael is a coming-of-old story that shows us it's never too late to forgive yourself and, just as important, it's never too late to love.

If you are interested in joining the book club and wish to be sent the link to join or added to our email list, please email Andrew Moore at amoore@seiu1984.org.

Regional Benefits Are Back!

We are excited to announce that as we all start returning to normal, we can offer a couple of our member benefits again this year. Canobie Lake Park tickets are available now for $35 per ticket. Regal Movie Theater tickets are also available now for $9 per ticket as well as Water Country tickets, they are $29.99 and must be purchased online at watercountry.com. There is a $3.00 processing fee per ticket, a $9.99 processing fee total for four (4) or more tickets. Code: SEIU1984

Other vendors are working on their offerings as well, and we will keep you posted, but please keep in mind that not all of our past vendors will be able to do so.

For more information, please call the main office line 603-271-3411 and dial zero (0).
Committee Events & Updates

Campaign for Public Good

The Campaign for Public Good, with the help of many of our chapters, recently donated over 100 backpacks to the Department of Education. Some of these backpacks were received by SAU# 58, serving the communities of Stark, Northumberland and Stratford. They recently sent in a "Thank you" for all of those who volunteered. It is pictured here on the right.

Knitting for the Public Good

We are excited to announce that Knitting for the Public Good has returned. We are searching for people who like to knit in their spare time and donate items to those less fortunate. We are also accepting all purchased warm articles of clothing for donation as well if knitting is not your choice.

In November, we will donate the items received to the Concord Friendly Kitchen. We are also looking for other organizations to donate to. If you know of any or have any suggestions, please let us know. We will be happy to include them. Please send suggestions to Tamara Feener at tamarafeener@metrocast.net.

We will also be making a second donation in February of 2022.

THANK YOU!
The New Hampshire Emergency Rental Assistance Program (NHERAP) provides rent and utility assistance to eligible households who have been impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Have you experienced at least ONE of these in the past year?
- Reduced income
- Significant costs
- Other financial hardship
- Qualified for unemployment benefits after March 12, 2020

Are you:
At risk of homelessness, paying more than 30% of your income for rent and utilities, or living in unsafe or unhealthy housing, or under a certain income level?

The NH Emergency Rental Assistance Program will cover up to 15 months of:
- Past-due and future rent payments, including late fees and legal fees (back to April 1, 2020)
- Past-due and future utilities and home heating costs (back to March 13, 2020)
- Other housing-related costs such as internet and relocation expenses, including rental application fees, utility hook-up fees, and security deposits

What is the application process for the NH Emergency Rental Assistance Program?
- Apply using the online application, which can be found here on our website: https://www.snhs.org/new-hampshire-emergency-rental-assistance-program-nherap
- Call us if you need assistance in completing the application or need a paper application (603) 668-8010 Local, (800) 322-1073 Toll-Free, (800) 877-8339 Hearing Impaired.

When you apply, we will assist you in identifying the information and documents you need. This may include documentation of unemployment, job loss, or hours being reduced, increased expenses, or other COVID-related income hardships.

We will review applications, and once approved, will process payments for expenses to landlords and utilities. We will make every effort to process each application as quickly as possible. You may also visit https://www.goferr.nh.gov/covid-expenditures/new-hampshire-emergency-rental-assistance-program for more
Apply for a scholarship just for union families!

New and returning applicants: Click here to create a new application or to log in.

Logged in users: Click on the "Continue with Application" link.

Application deadline: 12:00pm (Noon, Eastern Standard Time), Monday, January 31, 2022.

Since 1991, the Union Plus Scholarship Program has awarded more than $5 million to students of union families. Over 3,500 union families have benefited from our commitment to higher education.

This program is offered through the Union Plus Education Foundation, which Union Privilege sponsors.

The Union Plus Education Foundation is funded in part by donations from Capital One N.A., the Union Plus Credit Card (You do not need to be a Union Plus Credit Cardholder to apply for this scholarship.)

Award amounts: $500 to $4,000. These one-time cash awards are for study beginning in the Fall of 2022. Students may re-apply each year.

Award date: May 31, 2022. During the first week of June 2022, award recipients will be notified by postal mail, and all applicants will be sent an email notification.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Current and retired members of unions participating in any Union Plus program, their spouses, and their dependent children (as defined by IRS regulations) are eligible. Grandchildren are not eligible unless a legal dependent (as defined by IRS regulations).
- At least one year of continuous union membership by the applicant, applicant’s spouse, or parent (if the applicant is a dependent). The one-year membership minimum must be satisfied by May 31, 2022.
- Members of participating unions from the U.S., Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Canada are eligible.
- The applicant must be accepted into a U.S. accredited college, university, community college, technical, or trade school when the award is issued. Awards must be used for the 2022 - 2023 school year.
- Undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to apply.
FREE COLLEGE DEGREE PROGRAMS

Members and their families can earn an Associate Degree with NO out-of-pocket cost.

SEIU™ FREE COLLEGE BENEFIT

YOUR COLLEGE DEGREE IN REACH!

Federal, state, and employer grants don’t always cover the full cost of earning a degree online. SEIU is proud to partner with Eastern Gateway Community College and Central State University to help eligible students fill the financial gap. Choose from several online programs offered by Eastern Gateway Community College (EGCCC) and Central State University (CSU) as follows:

- Earn an Associate’s degree or certificate—for free!
- Complete your Bachelor’s Degree—for free!
- Pay nothing for tuition, fees, or e-books – a savings of at least $20,000!
- Open to eligible SEIU members and their families.


Bachelor’s degrees(4) available in Business Administration, Criminal Justice, Education – Early Childhood Education, Education – Intervention Specialist, Interdisciplinary Studies/Humanities.

To learn more, visit https://www.seumb.com/education/seiu-free-college-benefit.

1. Eligible UH members are full-time paying members in good standing and their spouses, domestic partners, children, parents, siblings, and financial dependents. Benefits may vary depending on their membership status.
2. Eastern Gateway Community College is a publicly supported institution accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.
3. Central State University is a public university accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.
4. Bachelor’s degrees(4) available in Business Administration, Criminal Justice, Education – Early Childhood Education, Education – Intervention Specialist, Interdisciplinary Studies/Humanities. Students receiving bachelor's degrees must also be enrolled in the Bachelor's Completion program. Students receiving lower degrees must fulfill the criteria defined by CSU and/or the Higher Learning Commission.

SEA PAC Drive

INCREASE YOUR SEA PAC CONTRIBUTION!

Apart from being a union member, there are two other ways you can contribute to a stronger union.

If you are an active member of SEA/SEIU Local 1984, please click the link below and fill our SEA PAC Authorization, which supports our legislative priorities and political advocacy.

Make a donation of $10 or more to SEA PAC or increase your current donation to SEA PAC and receive a SEA backpack!

Donate here today!