



Activists Rally to #Save UConn Health

In the last several weeks, we've seen a GOP **state budget proposal** that **threatens the future UConn Health**, followed by more anti-UConn and anti-working families rhetoric.

Thankfully Gov. Malloy immediately and publicly declared the GOP plan was a bad budget, and he vetoed it.

While that was unfolding we gathered in protest, first as part of a student rally at UConn Health, then with hundreds of other UConn supporters outside the State Capitol, and then at a legislative forum at UConn Health.

We've been posting a lot on the UHP website (uhp3837.com) and Facebook (facebook.com/UHPCT) to provide members with the **latest information and ways to get involved**, plus a [video of our president speaking at the State Capitol rally](#).



Top left: UHP member Teresa Works explains the value of UConn Health's sickle cell disease program to Sen. Beth Bye and State Reps. Gregg Haddad and Mike Demicco at a legislative forum at UConn Health Oct. 2. **Bottom left and top right:** From the State Capitol rally Sept. 22. **Bottom right:** From the student rally at UConn Health Sept. 20.

Coming Up:

Oct. 24, 5 p.m.
Steward Committee
UHP Office

Nov. 9, Noon
Union Rep Assembly
Onyuke Dining Room

Nov. 13, 5 p.m.
Executive Committee
5 p.m., UHP Office

Dec. 19 (tentative)
UHP Holiday Party

Labor of Love: Still Time!

We will be wrapping up the collection of school supplies and snacks for the United Labor Agency's Labor of Love Backpack Drive this month. If you haven't donated yet, please do so soon. If you have donated already, thank you! All donations are greatly appreciated!

—Trisha Faraday
VP Community Outreach



PRESIDENT'S

CORNER: Our Role in the Budget Process

This month I turn this space over to our **VP for Political Activities Robin Washington Addison**. See "VP's Corner," Page 2.

—In Solidarity,
Bill Garrity



UHP at AFL-CIO Convention



UHP delegates took to the convention floor, (left) to nominate Jean Morningstar as a CT AFL-CIO Trustee, and (right) to speak in favor of our resolution to stop using the term “nonessential state employee.”



UHP delegates to the 2017 CT AFL-CIO Convention (from left) Michelle Proper, Joyce Fritz, Bill Garrity, Ivonne Hamm, Liz Barrientos, Chris DeFrancesco, and Jean Morningstar

Joyce Fritz (pictured with CT AFL-CIO President Lori Pelletier) attended a workshop on mobilization. Her recap:



I am excited to share what I learned at the workshop “Mobilizing Our Members to Build Strong Unions.” Some of the challenges that unions are facing are lack of interest by members to attend meetings or participate in union events, lack of education and engagement in politics, and lack of faith and knowledge about union history (i.e., gains and benefits)—therefore, lack of engaged new members for the future of our unions.

Here are some suggestions shared by union members about what can we do about it:

- *Education (workshops) and discussions are important to have to make union members feel important and to ask them what do they need and what do they think is at risk.*
- *Offer intense new member orientation making them realize how valuable unions are for today’s working people.*
- *Find out what talents lie in your members to get them involved.*

Unions must take credit for all the good things they do, so that our members can spread the good word. So as we move forward together, what can you do to help?

—Joyce Fritz



VP’s CORNER:

Our Role in the Budget Process

That GOP budget that made it out of the General Assembly was an ugly one, and while the governor did veto it, **our work is far from done.**

House and Senate leaders still have to come up with a new budget plan, and as of this writing they are supposed to be in talks on a compromise.

Unfortunately, in this case, “compromise” looks a lot like **“compromising the future of UConn Health,”** and **“compromising our right to collectively bargain.”**

Based on what we’ve seen so far and what we’ve been hearing, there is still an appetite at the Capitol to **drastically cut funding to higher education and to limit collective bargaining rights of public employees.** In case it’s not obvious—this has severe implications for us.

So again comes the appeal: **Have a dialogue with your elected officials.** If the people who support a disgraceful, labor-unfriendly budget are the only ones they hear from, how do you think they’ll vote?

If our lawmakers don’t hear from us, what reason do they have to fight for us? **They are our representatives, and our side must be represented!** If we collectively fail to be loud and clear in saying that cutting higher ed funding and attacking collective bargaining are unacceptable, we’ll end up with the state budget we deserve.

Let’s not be accomplices in the downfall of our institution and our collective bargaining rights!

Find your lawmaker at bit.ly/FindLawmaker.

**—In Solidarity,
Robin Washington Addison
VP for Political Activities**