

United for Justice

SEIU Local 1 JULY, 2015



When working people stick together, **WE WIN BIG**

Brothers & Sisters:

My father was a steelworker. He was able to buy a house, put me and my three siblings through college and retire in dignity. He lived the American dream.

That dream is not a reality for most of today's workers. Nearly half of American workers are paid less than \$15 an hour. We are losing good full-time jobs to part-time poverty jobs, and the income gap grows wider every day.

The best tool for working people is our collective strength in unions. When workers are unionized, it benefits our whole economy.

This past winter and spring, thousands of Chicago and Cleveland janitors united together to win raises and better benefits for their families. Chicagoland janitors from commercial buildings hit the streets with janitors from Chicago Public Schools and local government buildings—and more than 500 members took action for a fair contract in Cleveland. These dedicated workers rallied, marched and

even took arrest to protest poverty wage jobs that bring our communities down.

I am happy to tell you that more than

"We must work to make life better not only for us but for our sons and daughters... because no one hands you anything in life. You need to fight for it."

Reba Mae Booker
SEIU Local 1 Member in Detroit

12,000 SEIU Local 1 members in Chicago and Cleveland won raises, protected family health care and strengthened their contracts.

Every single SEIU Local 1 city has a major janitorial contract expiring in the next 18 months. Cleveland and Chicago members have shown us how to win. Now we stand in

solidarity with Detroit, Indianapolis and Milwaukee janitors whose contracts expire on July 31.

SEIU Local 1 members are fighting for justice on all fronts. We have big security campaigns underway. Adjunct faculty members in Missouri are uniting with SEIU

Local 1. Window washers in Chicago are fighting for a fair wage. And we are continuing to fight for racial justice, immigration reform and wage equality with the Fight for \$15.

Our recent wins are exciting, and proof that SEIU Local 1 members are leading the way for working families. The economic gains we make in our contracts not only help SEIU Local 1 members' families live a better life, but they also promise a better future for our country.

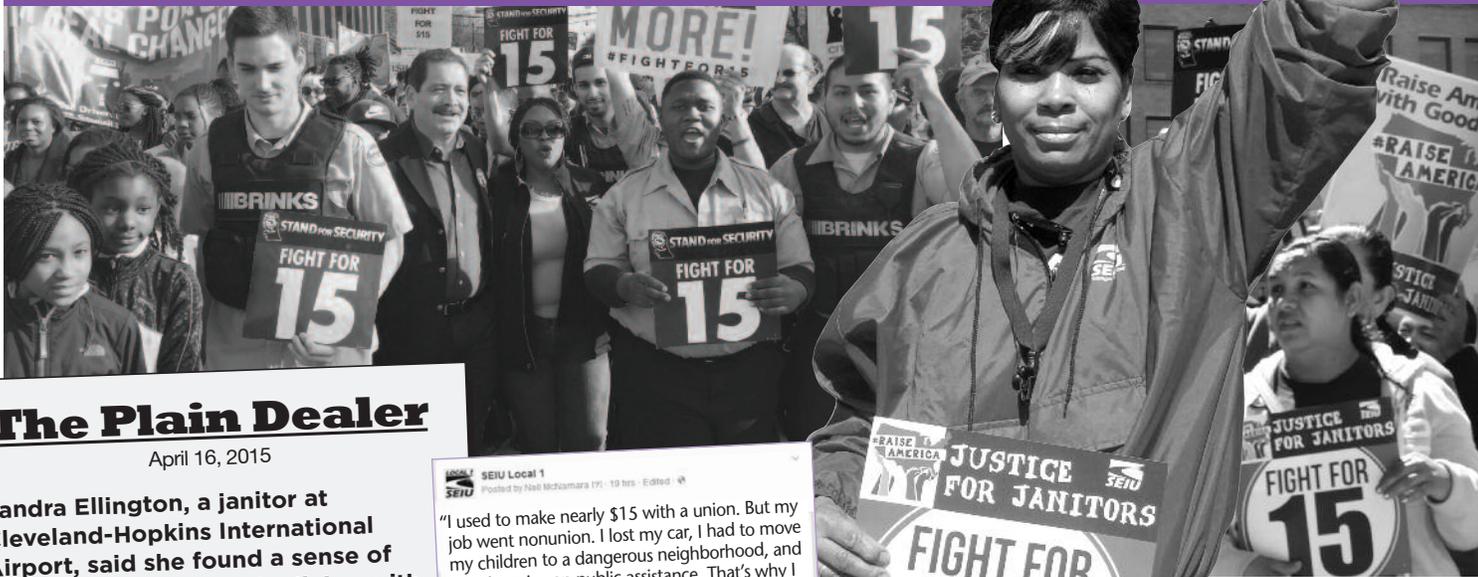
When we fight, brothers and sisters, we win. I know if we work together, we can achieve our dreams.



In solidarity,

Tom Balanoff
Tom Balanoff
SEIU Local 1 President

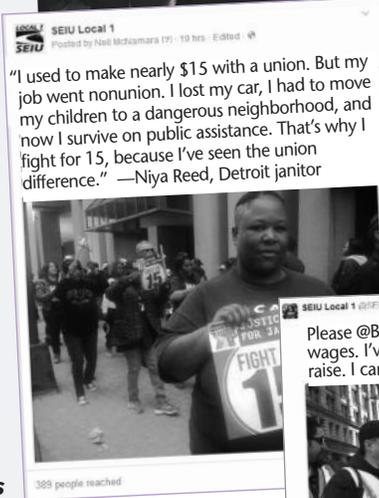
Fight for \$15



The Plain Dealer

April 16, 2015

Sandra Ellington, a janitor at Cleveland-Hopkins International Airport, said she found a sense of power in marching and rallying with workers from various occupations. "The working-class Americans are sticking together and they are saying, 'Enough is enough,'" she said. "No matter who you are, no matter what you do, we are all valued and valuable. It is important that we keep this fight moving forward." Sandra Ellington is an SEIU Local 1 Executive Board member, she was interviewed while marching with Fight for \$15 workers at a rally in Cleveland, Ohio



The Washington Post
Americans are spending \$153 billion a year to subsidize McDonald's and Wal-Mart's low wage workers

Press Corner

Chicago Tribune

▲ Ina Davis, who has been cleaning for Chicago Public Schools for 19 years, said she's responsible for 72,000 square feet of hallway, 17 classrooms and 23 bathrooms. "I want to clean your schools; you want your schools clean. Help me," Davis said. "I feel like I'm doing triple time." (Chicago Tribune, March 25, 2015)



THE ST. LOUIS AMERICAN

▲ "People don't vote when they don't think their voices have the power to make change. But the change we need in Ferguson is too big to be ignored, and we're urging everyone to come out and vote. It's the only way we can stop racially biased policing and a broken court system." John Caradine, a member of SEIU Local 1 and a Ferguson resident (The St. Louis American, April 2, 2015)

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES
SEIU's Balanoff: Illinois needs unions to balance wealth, elite's power in politics.

Member Spotlight:

SEIU Local 1



CRUZ GUZMAN

Second Generation Chicago Window Washer and Father of (Almost) Two

EVERY DAY, Chicago window washers step over the edge of skyscrapers like Trump Tower and the Hancock building and risk their lives to help billion dollar corporations... yet they are struggling to make ends meet for their families.

SEIU Local 1 member Cruz Guzman and his wife have a two-year-old daughter and a baby on the way. Every day Cruz comes home exhausted and dirty from a hard day at work. "I take a breath for five minutes, shower and then focus on spending quality time with my wife and daughter."

While Cruz loves the thrilling aspects of his job, his family wants to know that he is safe. "I want them to be comfortable with me working, so I don't tell them certain things about my day, like the time when I tripped and almost fell off the edge of the skyscraper I was cleaning."

Window washers want Chicago businesses to fairly compensate them for the treacherous work they do. "I truly love this job. It keeps me in shape, I like the danger. But we need to be paid enough to provide for our families."



More than 1,000 new members!

SEIU Local 1 is growing! So far this year, more than 1,000 workers unionized with SEIU Local 1. When workers are united, we can never be defeated!

- ▲ Security officers in Indianapolis, Columbus and Chicago
- ▲ Adjunct faculty in Missouri
- ▲ Food service workers in suburban Chicago
- ▲ Public housing workers in Chicago
- ▲ Janitors in Indianapolis and Chicago



"I spent 23 years in a union job for the State of Ohio. I know the difference a union makes, that's why my coworkers and I joined SEIU Local 1. A union is a place where you can be united as a community to make things better, and you have backup when you have a problem."

Barbara Thompson
G4S Security Officer, Columbus, Ohio



So far this year, SEIU Local 1 members have won back \$320,888 in back pay, lost wages and missing benefits through grievance resolution and arbitration.

Notice to Members

You have the right to become and remain a member of SEIU Local 1, and we strongly recommend that you do so. You also have the right to be a nonmember. Nonmembers have the right to object to paying for union activities not related to the Union's duties as bargaining agent, and to receive an adjustment for dues and fees spent on those activities. Any objection should be filed in writing with the Union no later than 30 days after resignation from the Union.

If you choose to become a nonmember, you will not have the right to vote on your contract or to participate in developing your contract proposals. You will not have a vote on whether to authorize a strike. You will not have the right to run for union office, to vote for candidates for union office, to select union bargaining representatives, or to bring charges against union members. If you have any questions, please call Local 1 Secretary-Treasurer Laura Garza at 312-233-8728.

United for Justice

SEIU Local 1

JULY, 2015

Building Our Power with

COPE

Make sure you contribute to COPE so we have the political power we need to:

- ▲ Win raises and better benefits.
- ▲ Elect candidates who fight for us, not special interests and corporations.
- ▲ Support immigration reform.
- ▲ Fight for wage equality.

"Millionaires and billionaires give a ton of money to elect politicians who look out for their interests. I contribute to COPE because in order for working people to be heard we need to participate. With COPE, we can even out the scales so elected officials look out for us and our families."

Dave Hollis, SEIU Local 1 Member



Bring Your SEIU Local 1 Membership Card!

SEIU Local 1 members use our cards to quickly scan in at union events. New members, keep an eye on your mail so you don't miss your card! Questions? Call the Member Resource Center:

877-233-8880

Do you receive text alerts from SEIU Local 1? Make sure you get all the news!



Text
JUSTICE1
to
787-753

Message and data rates may apply.



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