

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA MEMBER GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICES TECH DORIS M. JO

TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF

My name is Doris M. Jones, I work as a Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) tech for SBM at Eli Lilly, and in the afternoon I am a teacher at an early childhood education center. I have written a book about my life. which includes poems that I've written. I am also balancing being a single mother of two kids while also attending school. My family and I are currently in a shelter.



HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF SEIU LOCAL 1? AND HOW DID YOU GET INTRODUCED?

I have been involved with the union for about 7-8 years, with breaks. I was introduced to the union back when I first began working and noticed my paychecks fluctuated drastically. I then was introduced to organizer Paul Napier who influenced me to take action when I noticed unjust wages.

WHAT IS IT LIKE FOR YOU TO WORK A UNION JOB COMPARED TO A NON-UNION JOB?

That is a really good question - there is definitely a huge difference between a union job and nonunion job, and one example being that with a union job you can sit across the table from management and negotiate a contract for all workers, and it's truly one of the greatest powers. I also think being able to walk away from offers that are being offered is a huge statement at the moment. A beautiful moment about being a part of the union is having the support from the community, especially during times of action.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE MOMENT AS A **MEMBER OF SEIU LOCAL 1?**

My favorite moment as a member of SEIU Local 1 was in 2018/2019 when the contract fights kicked off. They were against SBM, GSF, 4M, and ABM which were the cleaning companies targeted at the time. In Indianapolis, thanks to Paul Napier we held the largest civil disobedience in Indianapolis history. There were about 96 people that got arrested and I was one of those people. I went through a lot of challenges with unfair wages while working at SBM. I give thanks to Paul Napier and those working for the union for putting Indianapolis back on the map - Indianapolis was one of the first cities for janitors to get paid time off.

WHAT WOULD YOU TELL SOMEONE WHO IS THINKING ABOUT JOINING A UNION?

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I would tell someone who is skeptical about joining the union to just join it because it is like car insurance, and you need it to protect you on the job. If management messes up your paycheck, harasses you or if you need to file a grievance, a union is there for you. If you are tired of something at work, you have the opportunity to join the fight and to use your voice to possibly spark change for everyone at the workplace.









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