



**SEIU 517M**  
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

The **E-Former**

The Official Electronic Newsletter of  
SEIU Local 517M

**July 2021**

### Staff Directory

Please contact the appropriate staff person using the phone directory below:

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## State Employee Bargaining Surveys Are Due Tomorrow!

By Dave Corrie, Information Services Coordinator



SEIU 517M will begin bargaining with the State of Michigan over a new collective bargaining agreement. This is our opportunity to ensure members are fairly compensated and acknowledged for the exemplary services they provided throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

These negotiations, which will kick off in August, come at a critical time and will center around important topics including wages, benefits and working conditions.

We would like to thank the members who have already submitted their 2021 State Employee Bargaining Survey. We appreciate your feedback.

If you haven't been able to complete a survey yet, please take a few minutes, **on non-work time**, to let your bargaining team know your thoughts.

To allow bargaining teams ample time to analyze and review member responses, **surveys are due by Noon, Friday, July 2, 2021.**

Links to the unit specific surveys are below:

[Humans Services Support Unit - E42](#)

[Scientific and Engineering Unit - H21](#)

[Technical Unit - L32](#)

**STAY SAFE — STAY INFORMED**

[www.seiu517m.org](http://www.seiu517m.org) [Facebook at: SEIULocal517M](#)

## Members Needed for Committee Appointments!

By Joey Combs, SEIU 517M President

Member engagement is the engine of our Union. The more members that are engaged, the more powerful and visible we are. Every election term, the SEIU Local 517M President makes appointments to standing and special committees. These appointments last the duration of that 3-year term. We are currently recruiting committee members to come and join us as we get ready for the new term.

To be considered for appointment or reappointed to one of the committees, please contact President Joey Combs at [jcombs@seiu517m.org](mailto:jcombs@seiu517m.org) by **July 15th**.

Committees currently available are:

### Standing Committees

**The Election/Tally Committee** oversees the general elections of the Local and shall be responsible for nominations and the preparation, tallying and certification of general election ballots.

**Political/Legislative (COPE) Committee** shall oversee and promote the Union's political and legislative programs, as well as promote member involvement in the Committee on Political Education (COPE).

**The African American Caucus (AFRAM)** is committed to enhancing opportunities for education, training, mentorship, leadership development and networking for SEIU members and staff of African descent. This committee is open to all races.



### Special Committees



**New Member Orientation and Sign Up.** Membership is the fuel that runs our UNION. The new member orientation and sign-up committee helps units with member to member outreach in new hire orientations.

**The Member Engagement Committee** promotes membership in the Union. Member engagement is the engine of the Union. Member engagement has been done via member events and activities such as general membership/chapter meetings, conferences, bargaining surveys, brown bag lunch activities, ice cream socials, bingo, bowling outings, community garden events, picnics, and our Annual golf outing.

**The Community Partnership Committee** focuses on opportunities for members to partner with community allies and others with a common goal. The committee works to build solidarity with other unions, organizations and neighbors to unite and advance our vision. As we continually find ways to increase our public visibility as advocates for quality public services, we will need community partners!

According to Article VII, Section 3 of the SEIU Local 517M By-Laws:

*Section 3: Standing Committee Members shall serve until discharged by the President, or until the conclusion of the President's term. Special Committee Members shall serve for the term of the committee as established upon committee assignment. Any Committee Member may resign upon written notice to the President.*

## 2021 SEIU Local 517M Scholarship Winners

By Dave Corrie, Information Services Coordinator



SEIU Local 517M is proud to announce the recipients of our annual scholarship program. This year we had 27 eligible entries from members, as well as, eligible children, grand children and step children. Award winners were drawn at random from all eligible submissions.

The following names were drawn as winners of the 2021 SEIU Local 517M Scholarship Award:

**Alex Allen**, studying Computer Science and History at Knox College. The child of Dennis Allen of the Scientific and Engineering Unit.

**John Barry IV**, studying Computer Science and Engineering at Olivet College. The grandchild of Phillip Clapp of the Technical Unit.

**Davian Bennett**, studying Criminology at the University of Michigan - Dearborn. The child of Tiandra Gunn-Bennett of the Human Services Support Unit.

**Anna Brown**, studying Criminal Justice at Michigan State University. The child of Tonya Brown of the Technical Unit.

**Megan Budai**, studying Medical Laboratory Science at Grand Valley State University. The child of Michael Budai of the Scientific and Engineering Unit.

**Andrew Ferdig**, studying Industrial and Systems Engineering at Oakland University. The child of Arina Ferdig of the Scientific and Engineering Unit.

**Grace Miller**, studying Radiography, Healthcare Systems Administration at Ferris State University. The child of Krista Miller of the Human Services Support Unit.

**Brett Potter**, studying PGA Golf Management at Ferris State University. The child of Heather Potter of the Technical Unit.

Congratulations to the winners and all the best for a successful future on behalf of the members of SEIU Local 517M.

Information about next year's scholarship program will be available in January, 2022 so watch the website, the E-Former and your email for details!

Don't forget that SEIU offers a Free College Benefit! More information about this members-only benefit is [available here](#).

## 2021 Golf Outing Rescheduled

By Dave Corrie, Information Services Coordinator

The 2021 SEIU 517M Scholarship Golf Outing has been rescheduled. We will not be holding our outing on August 6, 2021, but we will meet on Friday, June 10, 2022 at Wheatfield Valley Golf Course in Williamston.

The golf outing is the fundraiser used to fund the scholarship fund and it is always a good time.

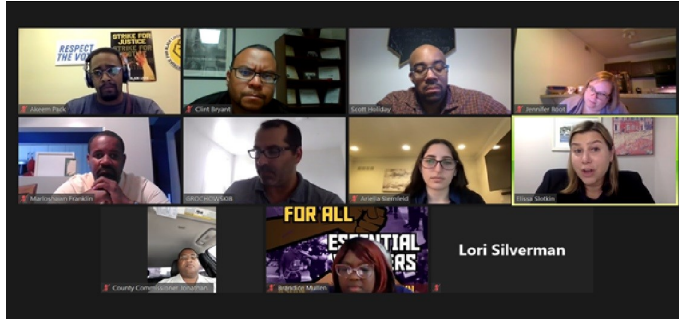
Mark your calendars now and we will see you in 2022!

## Local 517M Partners with the SEIU State Council for Virtual Check-in With Congresswoman Slotkin

By Clint Bryant, Labor Relations Specialist

On June 25th, SEIU Local 517M members and staff joined with partners from other SEIU locals for a virtual check-in with U.S. Representative Elissa Slotkin.

Congresswoman Slotkin represents the 8th Congressional District which includes portions of both Lansing and East Lansing, Rochester, Clarkston, Lake Orion, Oxford, Brighton, Howell, Mason, Okemos, and Haslett.



The agenda topics included upcoming federal legislation, the status of the PRO Act, Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), lowering the cost of prescription drugs, and several environmental concerns from our members with the State of Michigan.

The virtual meeting was informative and permitted an opportunity to ask questions and share concerns of the membership.

The next virtual check-in will be with Congressman Dan Kildee of Michigan's 5th congressional district in August. To submit a question or concern for Congressman Kildee, please use this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2HKZNGW>

## Elections for the Human Services Support Unit Coming Soon!

By Dave Corrie, Information Services Coordinator

The Human Services Support bargaining unit election is coming up this Fall. To be eligible to run for office you must have been a member in good standing for the last 12 consecutive months. Positions up for election in 2021 include Unit President, Unit Vice President and Unit Board positions (based on your classification). Also, an election of Stewards and Alternate Stewards will be held at the same time.

Stewards and Alternate Stewards for the following areas:

- 1 Cadillac Place - All Departments: LEO - UIA, DHHS/DDS
- 2 LEO - WD Southern Region
- 3 LEO - WD Statewide
- 4 Grand Rapids - Contact Center and Adjudication Center LEO - UIA
- 5 LEO/WD
- 6 Saginaw - Local Office and Adjudication Center LEO - UIA
- 7 Lansing Office and Contact Center LEO - UIA
- 8 LEO - WD Northern Region
- 9 DHHS/DDS Members (Detroit)
- 10 DHHS/DDS Members (Kalamazoo)
- 11 DHHS/DDS Members (Lansing/Traverse City)
- 12 All Other Areas

Get involved! The Union movement is only as strong as the leaders that take the time to be active which benefits all members.

Candidate Petition forms and election schedule will appear in the August edition of the E-Former and will be available on our website ([www.seiu517m.org](http://www.seiu517m.org)) at that time. For specific questions regarding elections, please contact Dave Corrie at [corried@seiu517m.org](mailto:corried@seiu517m.org).

## **Upcoming Elections for the Technical Unit**

By Dave Corrie, Information Services Coordinator

Elections are being held this Fall for the Technical bargaining unit. You must have been a member in good standing for the last 12 consecutive months in order to be eligible to run for office. Leadership positions up for election in 2021 include Unit Secretary/Treasurer and Unit Board positions which include a President and Vice President for each chapter as defined below:

Chapter 1: All of the following counties: Gogebic, Iron, Ontonogan, Houghton, Keweenaw, Baraga, Marquette, Dickinson, and Menominee.

Chapter 2: All of the following counties: Alger, Delta, Schoolcraft, Luce, Mackinac, and Chippewa.

Chapter 3: All of the following counties: Charlevoix, Antrim, Leelanau, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Manistee, Wexford, Missaukee, Mason, Lake, Osceola, and Clare.

Chapter 4: All of the following counties: Emmet, Cheboygan, Presque Isle, Otsego, Montmorency, Alpena, Crawford, Oscoda, Alcona, Roscommon, Ogemaw, and Iosco.

Chapter 5: All of the following counties: Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Isabella, Muskegon, Ottawa, Kent, Montcalm, Ionia, and Gratiot.

Chapter 6: All of the following counties: Gladwin, Arenac, Midland, Bay, Saginaw, Tuscola, Huron, Sanilac, Lapeer, and Genesee. Also Shiawassee county except for the communities of Perry, Morrice, Shaftsburg, and Laingsburg.

Chapter 7: All of the following counties: Allegan, Barry, Van Buren, Kalamazoo, Calhoun, Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph, and Branch.

Chapter 8: All of the following counties: Hillsdale, Lenawee, Monroe, Washtenaw, Jackson, and Livingston.

Chapter 9: All of Clinton County. Also the communities of Perry, Morrice, Shaftsburg, and Laingsburg in Shiawassee County. Also Lansing zip codes #48906 and #48912.

Chapter 10: All of Eaton county. Also Lansing zip codes #48915 and #48917.

Chapter 11: Lansing zip codes #48901, #48933, #48910 and #48911, except the portions falling into the Chapter 12 boundary description.

Chapter 12: The portion of Ingham county as follows: the easterly portion, from Coolidge/Pine Tree Roads to the East county-line and the southerly portion from Willoughby Road to the South county-line.

Chapter 13: All of the counties of Oakland, Macomb, and St. Clair.

Chapter 14: All of Wayne County.

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