



SEIU 517M
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

The **E-Former**

The Official Electronic Newsletter of
SEIU Local 517M

March 2022

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Click on the map to find out which Region your unit is in.



Grand Haven Schools Conduct “Mini” Steward Training

What’s a better way to spend a blustery, snowy, Saturday morning in February than learning how to better represent your members and maximize your membership?

Unit officers and stewards at Grand Haven Public Schools held a “mini” steward training session on Saturday, February 5, 2022.

This was an opportunity for them to refresh themselves on the basics of investigating, filing, and representing their members through the grievance procedure and ways to engage their unit members to maximize their membership.

The unit officers continue to diligently work to better educate themselves in representing their membership and build a stronger unified SEIU membership at Grand Haven Schools.



Pictured Left to right: Linda Nise, Tiffany Straight, Sarah Baker, Jayne Kline, Patty Anyanwu, Brenda Sibley, Michelle Brown, Bob Dixon

Golf Outing Save the Date!



The SEIU Local 517M Scholarship Golf Outing is scheduled for Friday, June 10th at Wheatfield Valley Golf Course in Williamston. More detailed information will be coming in the next newsletter. This is a fundraiser for our scholarship fund.

STAND TOGETHER — STAND STRONG

www.seiu517m.org

[Facebook at: SEIULocal517M](#)

Freedom Foundation Continues State Employee Privacy Invasion with Unsolicited Letters

They are at it again! The Washington State based anti-union organization call the Freedom Foundation continues to invade the privacy of members by sending unsolicited mail encouraging members to drop their union.

These attacks are just the latest in an attempt to silence the voice of workers, spread falsehoods and misrepresent the value of unions and importance of collective bargaining.

All members receiving these communications are encouraged to reject these solicitations, tell the Freedom Foundation to remove them from any mailing list, and send a strong message that SEIU is strong and thriving by reauthorizing your union dues deductions today.

Yearly reauthorization is required under Civil Service Rules and can be done by utilizing the [HR Self-Service Portal](#) or calling the HR Call Center at 877-766-6447.

Those who reauthorize will have their dues and membership status protected until October 13, 2023.

To reauthorize from a computer:

1. Login through the [HR Self-Service Portal](#).
2. From the main screen, in the upper left-hand corner select **Bookmarks >> Employee Self-Service >> Pay >> Dues Payroll Deduction**.
3. A new screen will open, on the far right select “**Re-authorize continued deduction for an additional year through 10/13/2023**”, then click the submit button.
4. A new screen will open asking you to **authorize your reauthorization**. Click Authorize.
5. Once completed a confirmation will be sent to your email.

March is Women’s History Month

Provided by SEIU International

March is Women’s History Month, a time to celebrate the timeless contributions of Labor activists and visionaries of the past, and name the leaders who shaped the future of the movement.

Emma Tenayuca 1916-1999

In the 1930s many Mexican and Mexican American workers were excluded from the New Deal’s jobs and housing programs. Emma Tenayuca organized walkouts, protests, and strikes against the discrimination her community was facing. On January 31, 1938, nearly 12,000 pecan shellers in San Antonio walked off the job to protest inhumane working conditions and poverty wages. They unanimously elected Emma Tenayuca as the leader of what became one of the biggest labor strikes in U.S. history. She was 21-years-old at the time.

Elinor Marshall Glenn 1915-2013

At a time when it wasn’t a woman’s place to become an organizer, Elinor Marshall Glenn disrupted the status quo. Glenn was the first woman in history to become General Manager of a Service Employees local. At SEIU Local 434 in Los Angeles, Glenn organized thousands of employees and led the first strike to protect the wages of county workers. Glenn won major gains for the workers throughout her decades-long career and became a founding member of the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

Rosina Corrothers Tucker 1881-1987

Rosina Corrothers Tucker was a civil rights and Labor activist whose leadership was vital to the creation and success of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Tucker was a bold force in the fight to integrate public spaces in Washington, D.C., and an advocate for the rights of children and the elderly. She went on to organize women workers in the laundry trade and domestic service industries. Tucker raised her voice and refused to play small, during a time when African American women had to fight for opportunities to lead in movements for racial and economic justice.

Free College Options Have Expanded!



The SEIUSM Free College Benefit Program is now even better! Not only can SEIU Members and their families earn an Associate's Degree from Eastern Gateway Community College and/or complete your Bachelor's Degree at Central State University online, but you can now complete your first bachelor's degree at Paul Quinn College, all while paying nothing out of your own pocket for tuition, fees, or books.

Paul Quinn College, one of the most innovative small colleges in America, is a private, faith-based, four-year, liberal arts-inspired HBCU located in Dallas Texas, and is nationally accredited by the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TACCS). They are now offering SEIU members and families the opportunity to complete their first bachelor's degree. Programs offered include Religious Studies, Communications, Psychology, and Entrepreneurship.

Looking to take the next step in your education journey? Submit your inquiry form today and the team at the Student Resource Center will answer any questions you have and guide you through enrollment and beyond.

Remember - your family is eligible, too! Get started by registering or signing in on seiumb.com to fill out the inquiry form.

2022 Scholarship Applications Are Now Available

There have been some enhancements and changes to the SEIU Local 517M Scholarship Program for 2022.

SEIU 517M - Tomorrow's Michigan Today has been created as SEIU Local 517M's 501c(3) and is now the entity that is offering the scholarships. This will allow for a greater ability to fundraise for the scholarship program.

The eligibility criteria has been expanded to cover member spouses. The scholarship is now open to dues-paying members in good standing (as defined in the SEIU Local 517M Constitution and Bylaws), their spouse, children, step children, adopted children or grandchildren with college or trade school expenses.



The number of scholarships available this year has been increased from 8 to 15. The amount of each scholarship has also increased from \$500 to \$600. These non-renewable scholarships will be awarded to students based on successful completion of the application process and meeting certain criteria. Awards will be made via a lottery system from all eligible submissions.

Scholarships are awarded without regard to gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or political affiliation of the applicant. Scholarships are limited to one per household for each academic year.

Applications must be received by May 27, 2022. The winners will be notified by July 1, 2022.

For full details and the scholarship application, [please click here](#).

Last year's scholarship winners were: **Alex Allen** attending Knox College, **John Barry IV** attending Olivet College, **Davian Bennett** attending University of Michigan Dearborn, **Anna Brown** attending Michigan State University, **Megan Budai** attending Grand Valley State University, **Andrew Ferdig** attending Oakland University, **Grace Miller** attending Ferris State University, and **Brett Potter** attending Ferris State University.