



Wisconsin State AFL-CIO

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Phone: 414-771-0700, wisafclcio.org
President: Stephanie Bloomingdale, Secretary-Treasurer: Marcos Alfaro

January 2023

TO ALL AFFILIATES

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The annual Wisconsin State AFL-CIO **Community Services Conference** will be held **March 23, 24, and 25 at the Madison Concourse Hotel and Governor's Club**. The conference will open with a plenary/general session at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 23. Registration will be available that morning beginning at 10:00 a.m. Details regarding the registration fee, lodging, and related matters can be found on the reverse side of this letter. Below you will find a general overview of the conference. It is not meant to be all-inclusive but merely give a framework for the time we will be together. The scheduling of some sessions may be modified to accommodate guest speakers.

This conference really is a call to action - with the intent that the education and information provided will allow participants to become more involved in both the labor movement and also within their individual communities. The AFL-CIO Labor Engagement program is about "making the community a better place in which to live, work, raise a family, and retire". It is about mobilizing Union members - through local unions and central labor councils - to address workplace and social justice issues. By building strong partnerships with other community and faith organizations, more can be achieved.

Thursday's opening plenary session will include the presentation of the Ralph A. Jirikowic Award and the Wisconsin State AFL-CIO Project Award. *[Nominations for both awards are due on Thursday, March 9. Application forms with additional information are included in this mailing. Please consider nominating a volunteer or a group of volunteers from your area!]* There will be two general sessions, with a break in between, on Thursday afternoon. **New this year - we plan to have a volunteer project available onsite Thursday morning for those who are interested!**

Over the three days, conference attendees will hear from the President and Secretary-Treasurer of the Wisconsin State AFL-CIO. Updates will be given on the upcoming spring election, organizing across the state, and other pertinent subjects. What are the strategies for 2023 and beyond? There is much work to be done, to make Wisconsin better for all working families, and this is an excellent opportunity to hear first-hand about plans for the upcoming year. And we will have sponsored hospitality both Thursday and Friday evenings, to allow for all to have the chance to meet other Union activists from across the state.

On Friday, we will have a general session and workshops in the morning, a buffet luncheon, and then another set of workshops followed by a general session. [PLEASE indicate on the registration form which workshops you want to attend. All workshop information - times and descriptions - is included in the mailing.] We will again get legal updates from The Previant Law Firm on a number of areas including FMLA, NLRA updates, and much more. On Saturday, we will close with a general session. We will adjourn no later than 11:00 a.m. You can then return to your respective communities recharged and ready to go!

We are certain that you will find the conference educational and packed with useful information that you can take back to your local unions. Please submit your **registration fee of \$125.00 per attendee and completed registration form(s) by Monday - March 13, 2023.**

In Solidarity

Handwritten signature of Stephanie Bloomingdale in black ink.

Stephanie Bloomingdale
President

Handwritten signature of Marcos Alfaro Sr. in black ink.

Marcos Alfaro
Secretary-Treasurer

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

LOCATION:

The Madison Concourse Hotel and Governor's Club
One West Dayton Street
Madison, WI 53703
608-257-6000 or 800-356-8293

REGISTRATION:

\$125.00 per attendee, which includes a buffet luncheon on Friday. Check, made payable to the **Wisconsin State AFL-CIO**, must be included with registration form (enclosed) and received **by Monday - March 13, 2023**. *[Please note the mailing address below!!]*

QUESTIONS:

If you have questions concerning the conference or need additional information/clarification, please contact Ann McNeary, AFL-CIO Labor Liaison and Conference Chair, at either labor@uwdc.org or 608-246-4355.

SEND FORM AND REGISTRATION FEE TO:

2023 WI State AFL-CIO Community Services Conference
c/o Ann M. McNeary, AFL-CIO Labor Liaison
2059 Atwood Avenue
Madison, WI 53704

CONFERENCE/HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Madison Concourse Hotel **until Monday, March 13, 2023**. After that date, the rooms will be released to the general public. To receive the rate listed below, be sure to inform the hotel staff that you are attending the WI State AFL-CIO Community Services Conference or you may use this link: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/6388?groupID=3774562>.

ROOM RATES: *[NOTE: The hotel reservation deadline is March 13th so act soon!]*

Guest room rates, per night, in the Concourse rooms are:

\$162 - single; \$162 - double; \$172 - triple; and \$182 - quad

Rates, per night, in the Governor's Club rooms are:

\$212 - single and \$212 - double

NOTE: Rates shown do NOT include the \$15 per day parking fee (self-park) for overnight guests or the current applicable state and local taxes of 15.5%.

WI STATE AFL-CIO 2023 COMMUNITY SERVICES CONFERENCE

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

Every Member an Organizer - Build Back Better With Unions

This ever-evolving training, which will be facilitated by the WI State AFL-CIO staff, will help participants learn about the changing dynamics in labor, including the rise in support for unions, along with recent actions that demonstrate the power of workers uniting in solidarity. There will be discussions about strategies and collective actions that we as workers can engage in, to bring about economic fairness and social justice. Prior attendance at an EMO session is not required.

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Union Jobs

When President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), he said the new law “is not just about today, it’s about tomorrow. It’s about delivering progress and prosperity to American families.” The IRA makes a historic commitment to build a new clean energy economy that will create ‘good-paying Union jobs’ and cut the pollution fueling the climate crisis and driving environmental injustice. Michael Childers, professor and Department Co-Chair at the UW-Madison School for Workers, will lead the discussion about the plan’s elements and how Labor can ensure its promise is realized.

Introduction to Collective Bargaining

Every Union member should have a basic understanding of the collective bargaining process. Don Taylor, a professor at the University of Wisconsin School for Workers, will provide an orientation to what everyone should know about how bargaining works. He will also discuss how every member can play a role in achieving the best possible bargaining outcome.

Labor History - Building Solidarity by Learning from the Past

Wisconsin’s exciting labor history will be told in this interactive session. Find out how workers and their unions helped to make the state a great place to live. Discuss how labor history may be used to build stronger unions and build public awareness of the contributions of labor. Jaclyn Kelly, WLHS Executive Director and former President of AFSCME Local 526 (Milwaukee Public Museum workers) and active member in the Young Workers Committee of the Milwaukee Area Labor Council, will lead the discussion.

Labor of Love - Unions and Community Service

Union members aren’t just fighting for a better workplace; they are striving to make the community better for everyone. Emily Mueller, AFL-CIO Labor Liaison from Milwaukee, will walk through how to engage your membership around community service, how to use it as a capacity building tool, and how to partner with your local United Way.

Planning for Retirement

Want to feel more confident when transitioning into retirement? Brian Goode, a Principal Securities Financial Representative/Financial Advisor from Union Financial will highlight strategies and action steps soon to be (or current) retirees can take. He also will discuss getting the most from Social Security - how benefits are calculated, options for taking them and ways to maximize them.

Solidarity is a Verb, Part 1

Join Jay Reinke, AFL-CIO Community Services Liaison from Milwaukee, in the “Identity Strands Exercise” to explore the intersection of our identities and growing the Labor Movement through diversity and inclusion. Understanding each other is an important step in building true Solidarity.

Solidarity is a Verb, Part 2

In this second half of the program, we explore the importance of racial and economic justice in turning Solidarity into a verb. You need not have attended Part 1 to attend Part 2. AFL-CIO constituency groups and their importance to the Labor Movement will be explored. The Milwaukee Area Labor Council has the following constituency groups - A. Philip Randolph Institute (APRI); Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA); Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU); Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA); and Pride at Work (Pride@Work). Jay Reinke, AFL-CIO Community Services Liaison from Milwaukee, will facilitate this session.

2023 Wisconsin State AFL-CIO Community Services Conference
March 23, 24, and 25
Madison Concourse Hotel and Governor's Club

REGISTRATION FORM

Submit One Form per Conference Participant - Photocopy as Necessary
Receipt/Acknowledgement Will NOT Be Sent - Please Keep Copy of Completed Form for Your Records

Registration Fee: **\$125.00** per attendee
Make check payable to the WI State AFL-CIO!
Fee and Registration Form must be submitted by **Monday - March 13, 2023** to:

2023 WI State AFL-CIO Community Services Conference
c/o Ann M. McNeary, AFL-CIO Labor Liaison
2059 Atwood Avenue
Madison, WI 53704

Please print or type:

Labor Organization or Affiliation: _____
[International Union and District Council or Local Number **OR** Central Labor Council **OR** Other Labor Organization]

Participant's Full Name: _____

Name as It Should Appear on Badge: _____
[first name] [last name]

Mailing Address: _____
[street address] [city / state / zip]

Contact Telephone Number: _____ cellular work home other
[circle one]

E-Mail Address: _____

The tentative overall conference agenda, with approximate times, is as follows:

<i>Thursday, March 23</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>registration opens and display tables available</i>
	<i>1:00 p.m.</i>	<i>conference begins/first general session (with a break)</i>
	<i>5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>hospitality provided by the Coalition of Labor Liaisons</i>
<i>Friday, March 24</i>	<i>8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>morning/second general session</i>
	<i>10:15 a.m.</i>	<i>workshops - choose one from the four offerings below</i>
	<i>11:45 a.m.</i>	<i>buffet luncheon (included in registration fee)</i>
	<i>1:15 p.m.</i>	<i>workshops - choose one from the four offerings below</i>
	<i>3:00 p.m.</i>	<i>afternoon/third general session which includes legal updates from The Previant Law Firm</i>
	<i>5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>hospitality sponsored by The Previant Law Firm</i>
<i>Saturday, March 25</i>	<i>8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>final/fourth general session</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>conference adjourns</i>

Thursday Morning, 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. [OPTIONAL volunteer project at the hotel - new this year!]

- Yes - I would like to participate and can be at the hotel by 10:00 a.m. or so
- No - I'm not available to participate in the volunteer project

Friday Morning, 10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. [select one workshop for this session]

- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Union Jobs
- Labor History - Building Solidarity by Learning from the Past
- Planning for Retirement
- Solidarity is a Verb, Part 1

Friday Afternoon, 1:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. [select one workshop for this session]

- Every Member an Organizer - Build Back Better With Unions
- Introduction to Collective Bargaining
- Labor of Love - Unions and Community Service
- Solidarity is a Verb, Part 2 [attendance at Part 1 is not required to attend Part 2]