





# Local 8 Member Guide

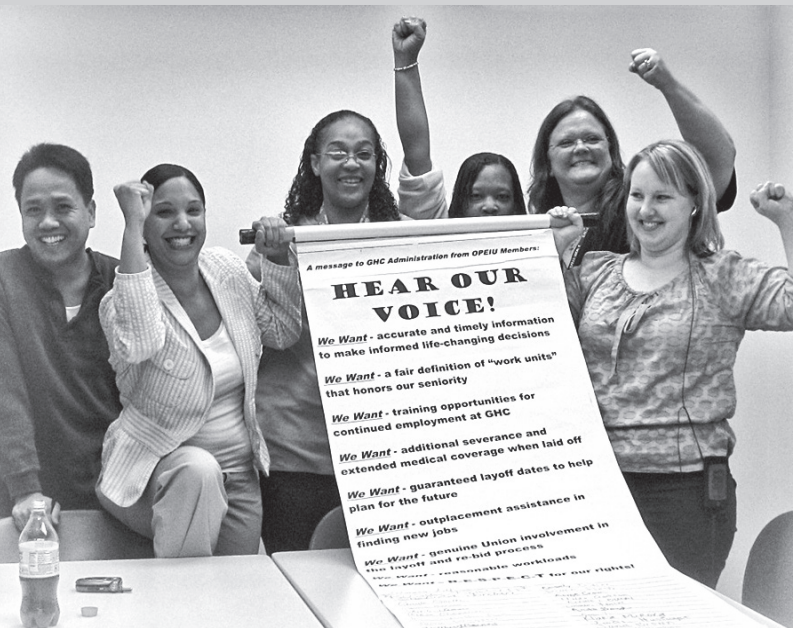
[www.opeiu8.org](http://www.opeiu8.org)

- ✓ Workplace Page with your Union Contract, Union Stewards, Union Representative contact information, and your Workplace Update
- ✓ Welcome New Members page
- ✓ Calendar of Events
- ✓ Local 8 Committee pages
- ✓ Member Benefits and Scholarships
- ✓ Workplace Rights
- ✓ Hardship Fund for Members in Need

*...and lots of other resources!*

## Union noun \yün-yən\

A union is a non-profit, employee organization – protected by law – where workers join together to improve and safeguard their wages, benefits and working conditions. A union also gives employees a way to achieve respect and fairness on the job and a stronger voice to impact employer decisions.



# Make Your Union Strong...

## Members Lead the Union

Local 8's President, Vice President, Business Manager, Secretary-Treasurer, Recording Secretary, 21 Regional Executive Board positions, and 5 Trustees are elected from within Local 8's membership by the members of the union.

### North Region

4 Executive Board positions

Regional Meeting  
4th Saturday in March

### East Region

4 Executive Board positions

Regional Meeting  
4th Saturday in June



### South/West Region

6 Executive Board positions

Regional Meeting  
4th Saturday in October

### Central Region

7 Executive Board positions

Regional Meeting  
4th Saturday in February

#### \* Out-of-state members

Alaska (2), California (2), Hawaii (1), Idaho (31), Kansas (1), Oregon (38), South Carolina (1), Wisconsin (1)

# Raise Your Voice!

## Regional Meetings

Local 8 has one meeting in each Region each year. These meetings include a New Member Orientation, Bargaining Unit Updates, “Hot Topics,” an educational component, and committee reports. Action items are brought back to the Executive Board and/or Membership Assembly. Check the Local 8 website [www.opeiu8.org](http://www.opeiu8.org) to find the latest Assembly and Regional Meeting schedule and locations.



## General Membership Assemblies

Official Local 8 union business is conducted and decided by members at two Membership Assemblies held on the fourth Saturday of January and September each year. Locations rotate around the state. Topics include the Local 8 budget; annual donations; Political Action Committee donations and endorsements; Local 8 priorities; field staff contract; and officer and delegate nominations and elections (when required). Each Assembly has an education component, committee meetings, member reports and a social event.

## Bargaining Unit Meetings

You'll receive notices from time to time about a meeting with just the members covered under your contract. Usually this is to discuss contract negotiations and other important workplace issues.

## Join a Committee

Local 8 has six advisory committees which report to the Executive Board and Membership. We'd love your involvement! Committees described on our website:

- Hardship Fundraising Committee
- Political Action Committee (PAC)
- Shop Steward / Education Committee
- Race, Equity and Social Justice Committee
- Communications Committee
- Public Sector Organizing Committee

## Local 8 Website

Union information at your fingertips, check out the Local 8 website at [www.opeiu8.org](http://www.opeiu8.org).

## Newsletter, Email Alert, Social Media, Text Updates

Stay in touch with the Local 8 Journal. Send your email address to [opeiu8@opeiu8.org](mailto:opeiu8@opeiu8.org), and we'll make sure you get **email alerts** about union events and calls to action. **Find us on Facebook** at [www.facebook.com/OpeiuLocal8](http://www.facebook.com/OpeiuLocal8). Text “Local 8” to 844-240-4114 to receive updates by text message.

## Union Contract

Your union contract is a legally binding agreement between your co-workers and your employer. The contract defines and guarantees your wages, benefits and working conditions. You can get a copy from your Shop Steward, Union Representative, the Local 8 office or at [www.opeiu8.org](http://www.opeiu8.org).

## Union Funding/Dues

Local 8 is a non-profit organization funded from member dues only. Dues have been 1.5% of gross monthly income since 1994.

## Shop Steward/Activist Trainings

Local 8 provides education opportunities for members and Shop Stewards on a wide range of topics like Know Your Workplace Rights, Legislative Advocacy, Labor History, Retirement Planning and Training for New Stewards.



## Local 8 Member Guide



### Local 8 members work at:

- Sea Mar Community Health Centers, Home Care (Aides) and Cannon House
- Solid Ground
- Plymouth Housing
- Metropolitan Development Council
- Casa Latina
- Thurston County Juvenile Courts
- Samaritan Hospital
- Behavioral Health Resources
- Cascade Regional Blood Services
- Providence Medical Center Everett
- Valley Medical Center
- Kaiser Permanente/ WA
- Washington State Ferries
- Willapa Harbor Hospital
- Trade Union, Insurance and Law Offices
- Trios Health
- Tri-Cities Community Health Center
- Consejo Counseling and Referral Services
- Low Income Housing Institute
- Seattle, Tacoma, Bremerton and Pierce County Housing Authorities
- Coastal Community Action Program
- Senior Life Resources
- Waterfront Credit Union
- Welfare and Pension Administration
- City of Ellensburg and Library
- King County Departments
- Northwest Immigrant Rights Project
- CDM Home Care
- Compass Housing Alliance
- Northwest Justice Project

*...and many other organizations!*

## Know Your Rights!

If you're called into a meeting with your employer and you think it might lead to disciplinary action, you are entitled to have your Shop Steward or staff Union Representative with you. You must make the request to your employer and your employer must postpone the meeting until you have the representative present. These are called your "Weingarten Rights."

### Office and Professional Employees International Union Local 8

#### Main Office (Seattle)

2900 Eastlake Ave E  
Ste 220  
Seattle, WA 98102-3012

#### Olympia Office

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Room 305  
Olympia, WA 98501

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