



Reports of WSLC-Affiliated Constituency Groups

Alliance for Retired Americans

At last year's WA State Alliance for Retired Americans' Annual Convention on October 5, 2021, we virtually celebrated our 20th Anniversary with anniversary buttons and stickers and a video recap of our activities for the past 25 years. We also honored previous WSARA presidents.

The Build back Better campaign was going strong last year and WSARA held a webinar with Congressman Adam Smith and Sam Hatzenbeler with the Economic Opportunity Institute, to discuss what BBB meant for Medicare and Medicaid.

During last fall, we worked with staff from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, Northwest Health Law Advocates, the Medicare Rights Center and the Center for Medicare Advocacy to learn more about the issue of discrimination against seniors who initially enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan (MA plan) and then wanted to switch to Traditional Medicare with a supplemental insurance plan. After six months of coverage from age 65 in an MA plan, the supplemental plans (Medigap) may require written health screenings that can deny coverage or charge higher premiums, due to the loss of 'guarantee issue.'

We identified three different groups of Medicare recipients that were impacted by this issue and realized that before legislation to address this complicated issue could be proposed, we needed more information to answer questions around who would be affected and the potential impact on all premiums. The answer would be an actuarial study to assess options for consumer protections and regulations regarding Medicare supplemental insurance coverage.

The national ARA referred us to Millman, a health solutions actuarial consultant company, and Nick Ortner agreed to work with us on the scope of our study and aid in drafting a budget proviso. Senator Karen Keiser and Representative Jessica Bateman submitted our Medicare supplemental insurance Study Proviso for the Office of the Insurance Commissioner to the 2022 Legislature. We created a WSARA Fact sheet on the problem of Medigap Discrimination: <https://tinyurl.com/5869k6ff> to educate retirees and legislators on the issue.

WSARA then sent WA Legislative Budget leaders a letter of support from 25 organizations, including the WSLC, AARP, PSARA, RPEC, WEA and others in support of the budget proviso, to study options to protect seniors and people with disabilities from Medigap discrimination due to a pre-existing condition. Read the letter and proviso here.

The Washington State Alliance for Retired Americans

members were elated the proviso was included in the final budget approved by the Washington Legislature for 2022, and sent many thank you letters to those who helped make it possible.

The findings of the study will be contained in a report from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner by this November 15th to appropriate committees of the legislature. WSARA will continue our work this fall to determine if legislation can be introduced into the 2023 Legislative session to enhance consumer protections around expanding access to coverage under Medigap plans.

To help make this possible, we are seeking stories from individuals who have been denied Medicare medigap insurance due to a pre-existing condition. Personal stories are one of the most powerful tools for change. WSARA needs your story (or that of someone you know) to help educate and inspire lawmakers to change this harmful and discriminatory practice in Washington State:

Share your Story: Medigap Supplemental Insurance Denial

The Alliance for Retired Americans will hold their virtual 2022 Western Regional Meeting on July 18th to elect Regional ARA Board members and hold state strategy sessions. The Quadrennial National Meeting is virtual on July 27-28 from 10 AM -3 PM Pacific Time. National leaders in the fight to strengthen and expand retirement security will address the meeting, and officers will be elected.

Last, WSARA is planning now for our 2022 Annual Convention on Tuesday, October 11th, with a fundraiser to follow.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie Boschok (IAM District 751)
WSLC Vice President representing ARA

Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance

APALA Seattle continues to be the bridge between the labor movement and the broader Asian American Pacific Islander Native Hawaiian (AANHPI) community. Our chapter is the largest chapter in the country. We have worked with our members to amplify their voices and develop their leadership skills to not only be stronger leaders in their workplace but also in their community. APALA recognizes the importance of building worker power and solidarity in the labor movement locally, nationally and internationally. Here are some of the work our APALA Seattle Chapter has organized over this year:

- Continue growing our chapter's membership by engaging new members through general membership meetings and events like our National biennial convention in August, our annual banquet in April, attending rallies and marches such as the Poor Peoples' Campaign Low-Wage Workers' Assembly and Moral March on Washington and to the Polls;
- Host webinars and educational workshops to for our members to learn about issues impacting the AANHPI community and how we combat it;
- Building solidarity with other Constituency Groups of Color as we continue to be the voices for our members within the labor movement and in the broader community, like leading on the Racial Justice Task Force at MLK Labor;
- Advocate for international solidarity with our union siblings across oceans such as fundraising for workers in the Philippines impacted by Super Typhoon Odette and in standing in Solidarity with striking Nagaworld workers in Cambodia;
- Partner with community coalitions and government agencies to advocate for a stronger presence of workers in the political decision making process;
- Fundraising and receiving grants from foundations and city departments to continue addressing and organizing around the issues that impact out AANHPI communities such as Seattle's Comprehensive Plan and Transportation Plan;
- Supporting and developing AANHPI leaders in unions and communities to organize around issues that impact them as workers.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ligaya Domingo (SEIU Healthcare 1199NW)
WSLC Vice President representing APALA

Coalition of Black Trade Unionists

The past 12 months have been quite eventful for CBTU. Due to new leadership established at the Puget Sound Chapter and continued collaboration with the WSLC and MLK Labor and the Constituency Groups of Color (CBTU, APALA, APRI, and LCLAA) we have been more visible and more impactful both in Labor and the Community at large

In November 2021, CBTU participated in the MLK60 3-day Commemoration of Dr King's only visit to Seattle presented by the NW African American Museum. We were part of the planning committee, participated in all of the events, and was also a title sponsor.

In January 2022, CBTU was one of the presenters of a workshop along with the Constituency Groups of Color discussing the "History and Future of Labor and the role of BIPOC Leadership at the Annual MLK March and Rally in Seattle. Our Chapter, through our membership have been engaged in shaping policy within our CLC and Statewide level through resolutions and participation in "Root Out Racism in King County and Beyond" and also representing Labor in the Coalition to

Establish Reparations in the City of Seattle. CBTU and working with Statewide Groups to restore opportunity, fairness, and equity to all Washingtonians. Within labor we work to push our institutions in the efforts to become anti-racist and more inclusive in terms of participation and access to leadership opportunities. We have significantly increased our membership in terms of numbers and variety of union affiliates. Our members have represented CBTU and Labor in workshops, panels, and trainings with many labor and community groups over the past year.

In May 2022 our Chapter was well represented and had an impact at the 2022 CBTU International Convention. Our Chapter President Cherika Carter was voted on to serve on the CBTU International Executive Board. In September 2022, the Puget Sound Chapter will host the Region X Conference where the CBTU Chapters from California, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington come together to work on national and regional issues in a collaborative way.

Moving forward, we hope to build on what we have been doing by building capacity through increased membership and support from our WSLC affiliates. We appreciate and look forward to continued support from the WSLC and its affiliates.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Allen (WFSE Local 843)
WSLC Vice President representing CBTU

Coalition of Labor Union Women

The past 12 months have been a period of slow and steady growth for King County CLUW. We increased our membership in terms of total membership but also in terms of diversity of union affiliates. With the help of the WSLC, CLUW have been more visible and more impactful in our Local Labor Community and beyond.

In October 2021 our CLUW Chapter was well represented as delegates and participants in the CLUW National Convention. Our Chapter was represented in the National CLUW Convention video and our own April Sims was a presenter at the Convention. Our chapter has always had a representative on the National Executive Board (NEB) representing the IAM, however at this Convention, King County CLUW member Allison Fine was elected to the NEB representing AFSCME from WFSE Local 53.

Over the past year we have been able to support WSLC Women's Committee activities as well as some of the IAM 751 Women's Committee initiatives. Our members have represented CLUW and Labor in general in workshops, forums, and trainings with various labor and community groups throughout the past year.

Looking ahead, we hope to build on what we have been doing by building capacity through increased membership and support from our WSLC affiliates. We have operated nearly 100% virtually in 2021 and 2022. As we all slowly come back to in person activities, we expect to be more active and effective in a in person environment. We are grateful for, and look forward to

continued support from the WSLC and its affiliates.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Allen, King County CLUW Treasurer, on behalf of
Jo Blake, King County CLUW President
WSLC Vice President representing CLUW

Labor Council for Latin American Advancement

Our mission: The Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA) is the leading national organization for Latino(a) workers and their families. LCLAA is determined to educate, organize, and mobilize Latinos in the labor movement and has expanded its influence to organize Latinos in an effort to impact workers' rights and their influence in the political process.

On behalf of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancements we are excited to report to the Washington State Labor Council AFL-CIO for state federation Constituency Groups that the funding we collected during our membership drive for 2022 successfully allowed for our newly chartered chapter to help fund our operating costs (PO Box, stationary, business cards, banners, and other expenses required to conduct business including swag for our members. We were able to utilize the support and contributions of our union allies and other organizations including the WSLC to be able to have an operating budget needed to continue the organizing efforts and building up our statewide and eventually multi state organization.

During 2021, we were also able to put together a membership retreat for July 17th - sign up now LCLAA PNW Strategic Planning Retreat (actionnetwork.org). The purpose of this retreat is to engage our members with helping shape our direction on a collective space for future goals and actions during 2021/2023.

Some of LCLAA Priorities for 2021 are as follows:

- Latina Equal Pay Day
- Immigration Reform
- PRO Act and building for the next generation
- Trabajadoras Fellowship
- LCLAA for Black Lives
- Equitable COVID relief

During 2021 we were also able to host our National LCLAA Board members and the membership of LCLAA in an event celebrating the Charting of our PNW Chapter. We were able to conduct a membership drive thru outreach for the event and also the assistance of the WSLC staff and leadership.

Our National LCLAA Board is celebrating a National LCLAA Gala, on Wednesday, September 28th, Washington DC. We will not be able to send any delegates to the event but

are excited to celebrate 50 years in the wake of participation as a constituency group of the AFL-CIO.

We are thankful for the encouragement and support that we have received from the WSLC so far, and we look forward to building on what has been started as we advance into the new year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Rodriguez (LIUNA Local 1238)
WSLC Vice President representing LCLAA

Pride at Work

Pride At Work is the LGBTQ+ constituency group of the AFL-CIO. "An Injury to One is An Injury to All" is our motto. We oppose all forms of bias and discrimination on the job, in our unions, and in the public square based on sex, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, race, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, immigration status, age, disability, HIV status, marital status, religion, or political views.

We recognize that true justice and equality can only be achieved through an organized and empowered working class. In that spirit, we offer our resources to all WSLC affiliates:

Model contract language covering:

- Inclusive and gender-affirming health insurance
- FMLA issues
- Non-discrimination language

We can also provide links to complete union contracts.

Working with allied community organizations we can provide workshops/trainings for union officers, staff, and members to help you represent your LGBTQ+ members and help them become union activists.

We're happy to work with affiliates on programs to bring apprenticeships and other opportunities to the LGBTQ+ community.

We now have three Washington State chapters:

- North Washington/Mt Kulshan, centered in Seattle,
- South Washington/Mt Tahoma, centered in Tacoma,
- Southwest Washington, centered in Vancouver.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Roberts (UAW Local 1981)
WSLC Vice President representing Pride at Work