Kicking Off the Recruitment of 10,000 leaders in SEIU-UHW

Resolution 05-11

Whereas, in April of 2011, the SEIU-UHW Executive Board adopted a Plan to Win the Future that calls for the union to develop 10,000 rank and file SEIU-UHW members who have meaningful leadership roles in the union and further calls for 1/3 of those leaders to focus internally and 2/3 of those leaders to focus externally;

Whereas, the SEIU-UHW Constitution and Bylaws call for the “re-election” or “reconfirmation” of union stewards (representation leaders) every three years;

Whereas, the SEIU-UHW Representational Excellence Committee has developed a plan to improve representation in the union by ensuring that representation leaders are trained, accountable and actually carry out the representation work of the union with the support of the union staff;

Whereas, SEIU-UHW also plans to organize thousands of additional healthcare workers into the union, campaign for a more rational, accessible and affordable healthcare system and work to elect candidates at all levels of government who support working people and quality healthcare;

Therefore, be it resolved that SEIU-UHW will launch in September a leadership recruitment campaign that will involve talking to all current union leaders and identifying thousands of other potential leaders and asking them to join our Plan to Win the Future by focusing primarily in one of the following areas:

1) Representation Leader- Provide quality representation to the members of the union. These leaders should be prepared, with the support and training of union staff and experienced leaders, to take real responsibility for representing members in accordance with the representational excellence program of the union. They must be elected or re-elected by petition or vote. Current representation leaders must be re-confirmed through this process between the months of September and December of 2011, in accordance with the Bylaws of the union, in order to continue to serve.

2) Organizing Leader- Work to build the bargaining strength of our members by bringing new members into our union including un-organized workers who work for our employers, un-organized healthcare workers who work for non-union employers and workers who recently left SEIU and are struggling without contracts in any other organizations.
3) Political Action Leader- Work to elect candidates at every level of government who support working families and quality healthcare and hold them accountable once they are in office. Raise COPE dollars to fund political efforts to improve healthcare and raise standards for healthcare workers.

4) Healthcare Leader- Campaign to expand healthcare coverage to those who don’t have it, create a more rational healthcare delivery system focused on prevention, protect and improve home based care and help working families lead more healthy lives.