

Members of Laborers #320 ratify first deal with Oregon Child Development Coalition

Employees at the Oregon Child Development Coalition (OCDC) in Multnomah, Washington, and Marion counties ratified first-ever union contracts earlier this month.

Some 400 workers at the private, non-profit pre-school childhood care and education network are members of Laborers Local 320. The bargaining unit consists of teachers, teacher assistants, cooks, bus drivers, custodians and other workers. The staff works primarily with families of the state's migrant farm workers.

The organizing campaign took part in stages, with the first group of some

170 employees in Washington County joining the union in July 2008. That was followed by 140 employees from Multnomah County and 90 more in Marion County.

Statewide, OCDC employs 1,100 workers at operations in 12 counties, serving about 3,000 children and families.

As more workers joined the union, the sides decided to bargain jointly.

Following months of sometimes difficult bargaining, a contract was obtained. It was ratified 98-1 in voting that took place Aug. 7.

The three-year pact provides for a 27

percent wage increase for Level 4 teachers, retroactive to January 2009. All other employees will see raises of 6.9 percent retroactive to January 2009. The contract calls for a wage reopener in the second and third years of the three-year pact.

OCDC operates on a budget of almost \$35 million a year. It gets funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Oregon Department of Education, Oregon Child Care Division, various school districts, and private donations.

Some of the funding for the retroactive raises is from stimulus fund monies to those agencies that was passed through to OCDC.

Union-backed anti-WalMart groups merge

WASHINGTON, D.C. (PAI) —Two union-backed groups dedicated to exposing the anti-worker actions at Wal-Mart merged on July 31. Their aim is to give united support to a new group of workers campaigning for unionization of the monster retailer.

Together, Wal-Mart Watch and Wake-Up Wal-Mart will “maximize the ability for Wal-Mart workers to win a voice on the job and bring change to the entire retail industry,” a joint statement from the United Food and Commercial

Workers and the Service Employees International Union said.




UFCW recently restarted its national Wal-Mart organizing campaign.

“Wal-Mart workers are standing up and demanding change, and the UFCW is standing with them to achieve the health care and labor law reforms that will restore and expand the middle class,” UFCW President Joe Hansen said. “We will not let Wal-Mart, as the world’s largest retailer, shirk its responsibility to its 1.4 million employees.”

Local Motion

July 2009
Union certifications and decertifications in Oregon and Southwest Washington, as reported by the National Labor Relations Board and the Oregon Employment Relations Board

Recognition elections

Name of employer			Results:		
Date	Name of union	Location	Union Yes	Union No	
McDonald's Wholesale					
7/9	Teamsters #206 & #962	Eugene	51	10	
YRC Inc.					
7/13	Teamsters Local 81	Portland	11	0	
TriCont Trucking Co.					
7/24	Machinists DL #24	Portland	3	2	

Requests for recognition election

Name of employer	Location
Name of union	Number of employees
CRT Processing LLC	Clackamas
United Steelworkers	30
Fred Meyer non-food (decertification)	Coos Bay
UFCW Local 555	60

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