

Union women play key role in women's marches nationwide

Thousands of union women and men took to the streets with workers across the country Jan. 21 to support women's rights — and to oppose a growing tide of anti-women policies coming out of Washington, D.C., and state capitals.

The Women's March on Washington, D.C., drew more than 500,000 people. Another 5 million took part in 673 "sister marches" held on seven continents. In Portland, a record 100,000 people filled Waterfront Park. Hundreds more turned out for marches in Salem, Eugene, Bend, Astoria, Newport, Astoria, Pendleton, LaGrande, Ashland, Halfway, and elsewhere.

"We're here not only to march, but we're here to build a movement," AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler told the crowd in the nation's capital. "It's a movement for paid family leave. It's a movement for equal rights. It's a movement for workers' rights. It's a movement for immigrants' rights. We're going to stand together in solidarity to make sure our voices are heard."



Union signs (above) and union members were everywhere at the Women's March in Portland on Jan. 21. The march drew an estimated 100,000 people to Waterfront Park (right). For Cheri Rice of Office and Professional Employees Local 11 (below, left), it was a family affair. She marched alongside her daughter and granddaughter.



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