



NC STATE AFL★CIO

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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Dear Labor Leaders and Union Members:

In 2017, we celebrated 60 years of the NC State AFL-CIO. It was a pivotal moment to reflect on lessons of the past and plan for the future.

At our convention, we honored James Andrews, who retired after 42 years of service to the NC labor movement, including 20 years as state federation president. As we bid farewell to our long-time leader, we elected new leadership for the future, including an Executive Board with 11 new members.

We have much to celebrate this year. During Labor 2017, we won labor-endorsed majorities on city councils in all of our state's largest cities, and we elected one of our own, Braxton Winston, member of IATSE 322, to Charlotte City Council. We expanded our support for affiliates and helped shine a spotlight on multiple union campaigns. We increased our presence on social media, unveiled a labor history exhibit, and began building a "rapid response" structure in our Central Labor Councils. We also continued to gain national attention for our good work. At the national AFL-CIO convention in St. Louis, leaders from our state were featured as speakers and workshop panelists.

I am honored and humbled to be president of this great state fed, and I look forward to working with you to build

on our success and move our labor movement to the next level. In 2017, we conducted listening sessions around the state to get ideas about how to grow and strengthen our movement. Those listening sessions helped guide discussion at our convention about how affiliates can work with us to improve our political and legislative programs and increase our support for organizing.

In 2018, we will continue these discussions with online surveys, interviews with labor and community leaders, and a strategic planning retreat with our Executive Board and CLC presidents. With your help, we will map out a plan to build a movement that is constantly growing, a movement that is both big enough and bold enough to set the agenda and drive our politics, a movement with the power to change this state.



I am excited about the future of the labor movement in NC. I hope you are too and that you'll join us as we build for the next 60 years and beyond.

In Solidarity,


MaryBe McMillan
President



Moral March / HKonJ



60th Annual Convention



Women's March on Raleigh



Legislative Conference



Charlotte Labor Day Parade

NC STATE AFL-CIO

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

In addition to our normal work supporting union organizing and mobilizing around legislative issues and labor-endorsed candidates, we accomplished the following:



60TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

- ★ MaryBe McMillan was unanimously elected President, the first woman to lead our state federation and one of only nine women in that role in the United States
- ★ 33 vice presidents were elected to the Executive Board, including additional representatives from UFCW and the Farm Labor Organizing Committee and the first out LGBTQ member
- ★ James Andrews retired after more than 42 years of service and was honored by Gov. Cooper with the Order of the Longleaf Pine and by U.S. Representative Alma Adams with proclamation read into the congressional record
- ★ Unveiled an exhibit highlighting North Carolina Labor History from the Knights of Labor in the 19th century to the Duke Faculty union in 2016



LABOR 2017

- ★ Endorsed more municipal candidates than ever before

- ★ Recruited more union members to run for office than in any previous election cycle
- ★ Elected Braxton Winston II, IATSE Local 322 member and Carolina Labor School alumnus, to the Charlotte City Council
- ★ Union-endorsed candidates for mayor were elected in Asheville, Charlotte, Durham, Fayetteville, and Raleigh
- ★ Helped win all 10 seats on the Charlotte City Council for labor-endorsed candidates
- ★ Won labor-endorsed majorities on city councils in all of North Carolina's largest cities: Charlotte, Durham, Raleigh, and Greensboro
- ★ Helped to elect the first African American woman as mayor of North Carolina's largest city, Charlotte
- ★ Helped to defeat a two-term anti-worker incumbent mayor in Fayetteville
- ★ Helped un-elect formerly endorsed incumbents who didn't deliver for working people in Charlotte, Durham, and Greensboro
- ★ Over 50,000 members of union households received mailings with our slates
- ★ Made over 4,000 calls to union members in the Southern Piedmont CLC and recruited over 100 new union volunteers for future political cycles
- ★ Filled 75 voter contact shifts--over 50 in the Charlotte area alone--making calls, knocking doors with candidates, and handing out lit at the polls.



AFFILIATE SUPPORT

- ★ Captured signatures and solidarity videos in support of UFCW organizing in Concord
- ★ Held a "Build a Better South" press conference in Charlotte highlighting worker abuses in the construction industry across the South
- ★ Joined the Justice & Respect In the Reinforcing Industry Coalition in demanding action on worker safety issues at the Charlotte Airport. The offending company ultimately lost their city contract.
- ★ Helped BCTGM secure campus teach-ins across the state to educate students about the Nabisco Boycott
- ★ Hand-billed 15 stores (close to 1/4 of all stores targeted anywhere) during a Nabisco Boycott Campaign national day of action
- ★ Supported UFCW's "Expose Walmart Tour" stops, recruiting speakers and turning out members, in multiple actions across NC
- ★ Supported UNITE HERE's demands for Charlotte to address heat safety issues at the airport and for Google to provide affordable housing for its service workers in Chapel Hill
- ★ Recruited union organizers to help make house calls for for the Duke Grad Student Union's (SEIU Workers United) election drive
- ★ Convened the Organizing Roundtable, revamped the organizing lead collection form on our website, opened a Google Voice mailbox to collect leads and designed business cards to promote it

- ★ Rebated over \$61,000 in per capita dues to Central Labor Councils through our unified per capita program



RAISING THE BAR

- ★ Continued national attention for our state federation with speeches, floor remarks, and workshops at the AFL-CIO convention in St. Louis
- ★ Helped launch a statewide coalition effort to raise the state minimum wage to \$15 an hour within 5 years
- ★ Raised \$2,600 to help hurricane recovery efforts in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands
- ★ Held local legislative meetings in Asheville, Charlotte, Greensboro, Fayetteville, and Raleigh; convened the statewide Legislative Conference to lobby on raising the minimum wage, fixing unemployment insurance
- ★ Continued to develop a "Rapid Response" structure to mobilize on legislative, organizing, and political issues
- ★ Began to develop a text-based resource for people who need help on the job
- ★ Drafted a "Labor History" lesson plan for grade school social studies classes
- ★ Held a Workers' Memorial Day observance in Raleigh
- ★ Garnered nearly ninety separate earned media hits
- ★ Produced first-ever Facebook Live video chat and surpassed over 5100 followers on Facebook and over 3600 followers on Twitter
- ★ Quadrupled our paid internship program from one intern in 2016 to four in 2017

Workers Memorial Day



Breakfast with Governor Cooper



Carolina Labor School Picnic



Raising Wages Kickoff



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2018 DATES TO WATCH

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| January 17: | Central Labor Council Leadership Training |
| February 10: | Moral March / H.K. on J. |
| March 21-23: | Advanced Carolina Labor School |
| April 27: | Workers' Memorial Day (observed) |
| May 8: | Primary Elections |
| July 8-13: | Carolina Labor School |
| Sept. 3: | Labor Day |
| Sept. 20-21: | <u>61st</u> Annual Convention |
| November 6: | Midterm Elections |