

Empowering working women throughout Washington, Alaska, and Northern Idaho

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Executive Board



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Report from the 2023 Teamsters Women's Conference
By Liz Brown, Local 763 Sr. Business Agent

When Teamster women fight, we win!

This year, we raised our voices in Music City, where 1,500 Teamster sisters (and a few brothers) met in Nashville, Tenn. Aug. 27-30 at the 2023 Women's Conference.

The Women's Conference is incomparable for its education, engagement, energy and solidarity. It's the best event our union holds.

Our hotel was next to the headquarters of Yellow Freight, which in July laid off 22,000 Teamsters as the corporation declared bankruptcy. We rallied at the building with signs reading "Bankruptcy Reform Now!" and "Put Workers First in Line!" Building managers called the cops, who were impressed with Teamster turn-out.

Ashley Alvarado, Women's Conference Director and President of Local 856 in northern California, opened the conference with a reference to its theme, "Sisters in Harmony."

"When women have operated in harmony, we have quite literally changed the world," Alvarado said. "This force is something that the Teamsters are leaning into—the power of togetherness. Just like a harmony, we all have our unique voices, perspectives, and talents, but when we join together, we create a powerful crescendo that cannot be ignored."

Dozens of workshops ranged in topic from harassment and crime against women in trucking; the rise of young women workers; combatting implicit bias; dealing with difficult people; domestic violence; contract data; collective bargaining; a presentation from Hawaii Teamsters on their state's culture and traditions and much more.

General President Sean O'Brien, General Secretary-Treasurer Fred Zuckerman, International Vice Presidents Lindsay Dougherty and Joan Corey and Alvarado held a town hall, answering questions from members.

Nashville wasn't all business. Teamster women party! Delegates sampled Southern barbecue, boogied at bars on Broadway, strolled Riverside Park along the Cumberland River and visited the Country Music Hall of Fame. I made a pilgrimage to the Johnny Cash Museum.

In the closing session, International V-P Corey entered to the song "Rise Up" by Andra Day, circulating through the room to make a powerful connection with every delegate.

"Organizing, specifically at Amazon, is a priority," Corey said. "If we stick together, we are going to get the train back on the tracks and get workers what they deserve. The time is now."

See you at the 2024 Women's Conference in beautiful San Juan, Puerto Rico!

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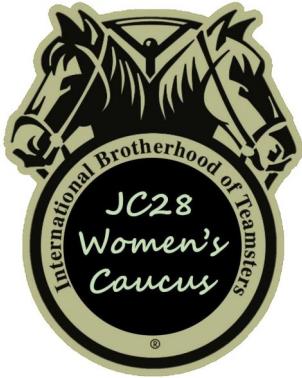
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**2024 Women's Conference will be in San Juan Puerto Rico!
June 23-26**





Local 174 Women's Conference Committee

Right after the 2023 Nashville IBT Women's Conference, Rick Hicks, Secretary Treasure of Local 174, encouraged the women at local 174 to start a women's fundraising committee for next years Women's Conference.

The Committee was created to get more women involved within the union and to send as many women as possible to the next IBT Women's Conference in Puerto Rico. Money will be raised through donations and several different fundraisers. A little bit about the committee is below:

"We are a group of dedicated Teamster Women from Local 174, that come from all areas within our local. We created our Women's committee to send women members to our annual Teamsters education event by raising money through donations and fundraising. Our mission is to empower women in the workplace by providing educational resources and support. We believe that when women succeed, we all succeed. Join us in our mission to make a difference in the lives of working women everywhere."



The Committee had their first fundraising bake sale on 10/12/23 before, during and after the initiates and general membership meeting—and it was definitely a HIT! More events like the bake sale are scheduled through May of 2024 to raise money.

JC28 TWC Website

We are thrilled to share that our newly updated website has officially launched! You can now easily access all of our enrollment and renewal forms in one convenient place. Plus, we're currently working on implementing an online dues payment option to make the process even more seamless.

But that's not all! Our website will also provide valuable information on scholarships and grants for higher education, available to both members and their family members. And to keep you in the loop on all the great things our organization is doing, we'll also be listing any important charity events hosted by our locals.

Don't wait - head on over to our website today and experience the new and improved way to engage with our organization!

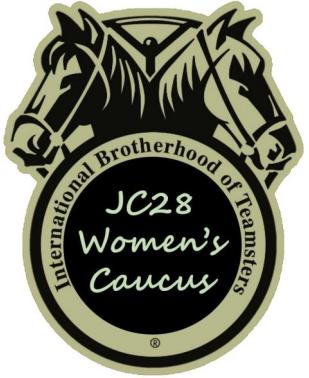
WWW.JC28TWC.ORG



JC28 Annual Meeting



The JC28 Annual Meeting was held in Seattle, WA from November 4th to November 7th, 2023 this year.



The Women's Caucus played an active role in the event, offering a chance for new and existing members to sign up and renew their membership. Moreover, the Caucus also took up a donations collection plate for Mary's Place, which is an excellent initiative to support the community.

Raising \$258.00. During the meeting, the Women's Caucus reviewed and discussed vital matters, such as the new website, updated bylaws, and plans for the future, including new member recruitment and setting goals for 2024. The JC28 Annual Meeting was graced by the presence of two distinguished guests, VP of the West Lindsay Dougherty and VP at Large Joan Corey. The women had a significant impact on the meeting, offering valuable insights and advice on the Women's Caucus. Their presence and active participation were highly appreciated by all attendees. Moreover, Dougherty and Corey went above and beyond by staying back and helping the Women's Caucus put together kits for Mary's Place. Their generosity and willingness to help in such initiatives are commendable and set an excellent example for others to follow.

Mary's Place Donation

Members of the Joint Council 28 Women's Caucus used some spare time at the November Annual Meeting to create dozens of cold-care kits for residents of Mary's Place, a shelter for homeless women and children. The shelter's two locations in downtown Seattle serve hundreds of unhoused families with a mission to ensure that "no child sleeps outside."



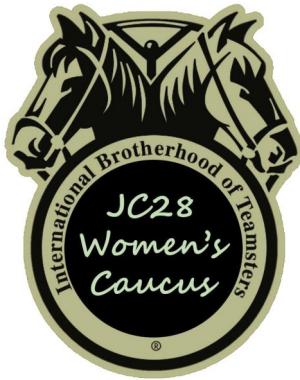
We knew we wanted to be apart and help an amazing team, so we teamed up with Mary's Place and asked them what families needed this time of year. We were able to purchase items to make sick kits for families that needed them. The kits included: tissues, cough drops, Emergen-C packets and other comfort items to alleviate cold symptoms.



With the help of everyone who attended our meeting on 11/4/23, we were able to raise \$258.00 and create an assembly line to help put the kits together. With special thanks to Liz Brown and The kits were donated the next day to Mary's Place and their response was this:

Thank you so much for putting those kits together. We really appreciate it and I know they will be put to good use this cold/flu season.

Amanda Wagner (left), community manager at Mary's Place Blanchard Street location, receives donated cold-care kits from Liz Brown, business agent at Local 763, and Local 763 Trustee John McCue



WA-ID Heavy Construction Apprenticeship Program

Teamsters enjoy a unique brotherhood that starts the moment you graduate from our unique truck driving school. The Teamsters/AGC Training Center provides Safety & Health and Apprenticeship training in Washington and Idaho. Construction Teamsters work in the road building industry. This includes both dirt work for new roads and rebuilding of existing roads combined with paving operations.

The Apprenticeship Program is a 3,000 hour on the job training program covering a variety of Teamster construction equipment, including truck and pup, dump trucks, and belly dumps. During the apprenticeship students will work on construction sites - learning their trade from a qualified Teamster journey person. In addition, all apprentices will attend supplemental related training of at least 144 hours per year.

Since 2018 we have trained 175 apprentices with an average of 27 per year. We expect this upcoming year to be busy and fully intend to train as many as needed to fulfill the needs of our employers. With the addition of our newly acquired equipment, we have the capabilities of training up to 10 students per class and 3 to 4 classes per year.

We also train hundreds of journeymen/women and apprentice Teamsters yearly by providing OSHA 10 construction safety training, 8 hr. load securement, 8 hr. forklift training, and 40 hr./10 hr. HazWoper classes. We also recently added a 16 hr. DOT hazmat endorsement upgrade training as well. This is provided at no cost to the Teamster members and employers.

For more information about available classes, please visit our website or email us directly.

Check out our NEW Apprenticeship video posted on our website!

WEBSITE: www.teamsterstraining.org

EMAIL: info@teamsterstraining.org



Upcoming Local Events

- * **Local 117:** Shop Steward Training: 11/18/23
- * **Local 117:** DOC Lobby Day: 02/07/24
- * **Local 231:** General Membership Holiday meeting and raffle: 12/9/23
- * **Local 38:** Annual Christmas Party: 12/14/23

Please share with us any upcoming events for your local

UPCOMING
EVENTS

Teamster Women Highlight!

Meet Mary Keefe

Teamsters Local Union No. 763

Business Agent, Political Coordinator

How long have you been a Teamster: 18 years

Her Union Story and why she got more involved:

I was raised in a strong Union family. Growing up in Arizona, my parents did not have access to Union represented jobs but they taught me Union values and that all work has dignity. My extended family in Seattle were very active in unions, including the Alaska Canary Workers Union where my Uncle Silme Domingo – an elected Officer of the Local was murdered for his involvement in ending corruption and racial discrimination in their local. Other family members worked tirelessly in their respective union jobs so that my generation had opportunities.

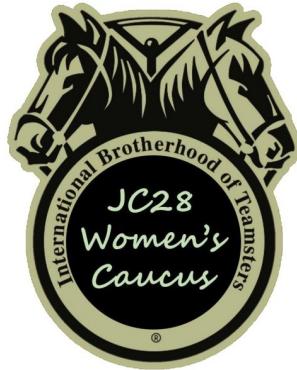
In 2005 I got a job at the Seattle Municipal Court as a Court Clerk and became a Teamster 763 member. On day 1, I was greeted by two of my shop stewards and immediately felt welcomed. As I learned the system, I knew I could always reach out to my stewards to help me both with the technical aspects of my job, but also what my rights as a worker were. My job was to document court hearings, ensure the paperwork was accurate and distributed to the necessary agencies, including jails and department of licensing. I came to understand that in doing a good day's work, people in the justice system would not get lost in jail or have the drivers license unnecessarily suspended. Working in a courtroom with judges and attorneys all day was stressful and we often felt disrespected even as an integral part of the system. We worked through our lunches and worked holidays to make sure that people could be processed through the system without delay.

In 2007 I became a Shop Steward to advocate for more respect in the courtrooms and a participant on our bargaining committee to codify our demands. In 2008 when the recession hit, we were faced with significant layoffs. Through negotiations, our Union bargained rolling furloughs, we all took unpaid days off to protect our union members, not a single Teamster member lost their job that year!

In 2013 I was appointed as a Trustee to the 763 executive board and got to learn more about the Local as a whole. I remember Scott Sullivan, the Secretary-Treasurer at the time, asked me many times if I wanted to come work for the Local. As a new mom, I didn't think I could balance Union work and a family but I kept coming around, honing my skills as a worker advocate. In 2015 I finally decided I was ready to take on Union work full time. I have the honor to continue to represent workers at the Seattle Municipal Court, a number of other public and private sector workers in the Seattle – Puget Sound region. I also have the opportunity to educate and advocate for workers on political issues that have a direct impact on their work place safety and benefits.

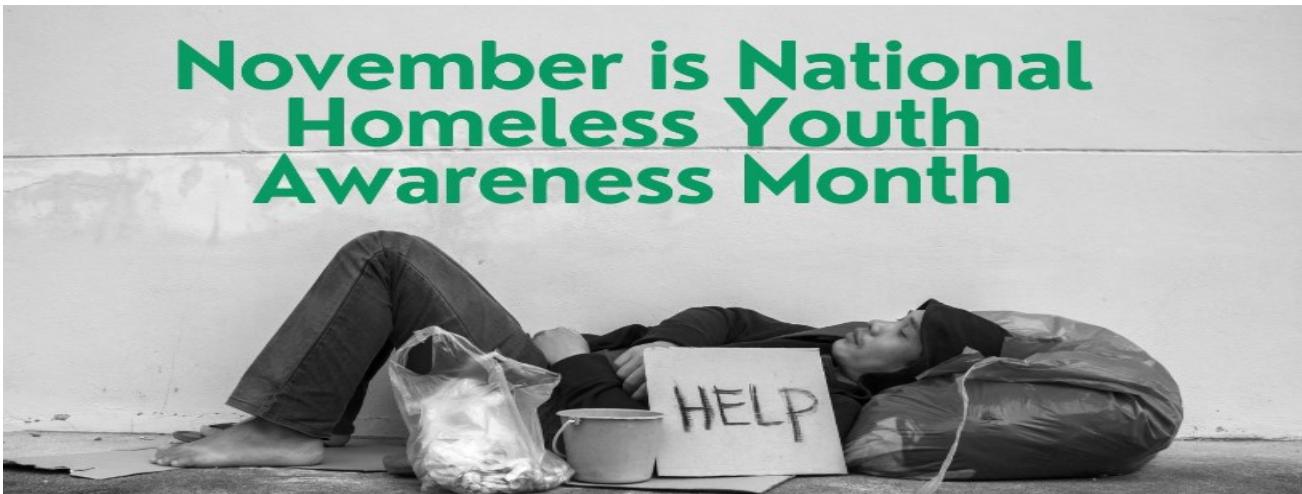
What she would like to share with other Teamster Women:

Teamster women are the backbone of the Union. Slowly but surely we are also becoming the face of the Union. It might take someone asking a few times to get to yes and that's ok. So keep asking your Union sisters to participate, elevate their voices and successes. We are persistent and resilient in our commitment to building a stronger, more inclusive Union.



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WWW.JC28TWC.ORG

The Joint Council 28 Teamsters Women's Caucus is dedicated to promoting the interests of its members and to unify the Women members of Washington Teamsters Local Unions through a provincial network. The Caucus wishes to encourage Women to get involved in social and union activities; to find strength in the diversity of our culture, race, and age so as to advance and strengthen our Union organization in the community, and in the labor movement; and to foster the opportunity for Teamsters women to participate and serve at all levels of the Union structure.



Mary's Place Donation Warehouse
Monday - Saturday 8:30 am to 4 pm
4521 6th Ave S. Seattle, WA 98108
Shipping: weekday delivery only

Mary's Place at the Regrade
Monday - Friday from 9 am to 5 pm and Saturday 9 am - 1 pm (closed for drop off on Sunday)
720 Blanchard St, Seattle

Women's Day Center
7 am - 3:30 pm Mon - Fri
1830 9th Ave
Seattle, WA 98101

November is National Homeless Youth Awareness Month along with National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week (15-22).

An estimated 2.5 million youth per year experience homelessness. Children experiencing homelessness are 4 times likely to develop respiratory infections, four times more likely to develop asthma, go hungry twice the rate of other children and are exposed to countless dangers.

Mary's Place will be hosting a *No Child Sleeps Outside Campaign* from 11/10/23 to 12/31/23. They will be raising funds for Mary's Place to ensure families have a safe and secure housing.

To support or donate, please visit their website to learn more. <https://www.marysplaceseattle.org/events/ncso-opening-night-2023>