



**UNITED STEELWORKERS
LOCAL UNION 3657**
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Organizing Committee Report June 2015

This month the Fight Back Pittsburgh executive board has focused on our efforts on implementing the framework for our Take Back Our Time Campaign and participating in the launch of the Paid Sick Days initiative with Pittsburgh UNITED and other allies.

Our Take Back Our Time Website is up and running and we have been working on organizing our first storyshare/listening project event this Sunday in which we are inviting members and community members to participate in a discussion on how the epidemic of overwork impacts workers in Pittsburgh and what we can do to change that. Our Take Back Our Time Website is up and running and we have also released a zine titled *Overworked* that further develops the narrative that this epidemic is destroying our families and our communities.

A component of the Take Back our Time campaign is our participation in the Pittsburgh Paid Sick Days campaign. With our allies at Pittsburgh UNITED, the worker organizing table, and various women's organizations including The Women's Law Project, Planned Parenthood of Western PA, and the Women and Girls Foundation we have been at the forefront of launching a campaign to win sick days for the over 50,000 workers in Pittsburgh working without paid sick leave. Childcare workers, home-care workers, and restaurant workers are just a few examples of workers who are oftentimes forced to go to work sick threatening to spread illness through food contamination or to our children. Low-wage workers are too often forced to chose between staying home or spreading illness. The lack of paid sick days disproportionately affects women and single mothers often working multiple low-wage jobs to make ends meet for their families. As a part of our fight to Take Back Our Time it's crucial that we fight for paid sick days to ensure workers can stay home and keep themselves, their families, and our communities healthy.

We launched the campaign on June 17th and our TBOT fellow Josh Orange as well as Organizing Chair Samey Jay have participated in meetings with various city council members including Natalia Rudiak, Bruce Kraus, and Deb Gross. We have taken initiative through social media to reach out to Pittsburghers with a petition encouraging our city council members to stand with us in this fight for sick days in Pittsburgh.

Our women's caucus continues to meet and is undergoing some shifts in leadership as new young women are stepping up and taking initiative. Although we are a worker organization, the women involved are eager to work on an anti-harassment campaign focused both in the workplace and on the streets.

We continue to stand with the Fight for 15 workers in Pittsburgh and across the nation and have participated in actions as the New York Wage Board hearings began and continue and workers from Pittsburgh have testified.

At the beginning of the month we stood with the Rivers Casino Workers, UNITE HERE local 57, and the Steel City Casino workers council as the gaming commission came to town. We stood with over 200 others on June 2nd to support these workers continuing their fight for a union in their workplace.

As we approach July we are gearing up for nominations for elections of officers for a new executive board, plan to have two more storyshare/listening project events, and to continue to build a narrative on the epidemic of overwork. We are excited to see new community members, young people, and women stepping up and participating in the work of Fight Back Pittsburgh and are eager to see where we are going in the next half of 2015!