



OPEIU Local 2 Rising Stars "Step Up" Committee



1/31/2014

Caniesha Washington, Co-Chair
Christopher Levy, Co-Chair



"Step Up" Mission Statement

OPEIU Local 2 Step Up Young Workers Committee works to educate, engage, and empower the younger membership; promote solidarity and coalition building; bridge the gap between younger, newer and experienced members; and improve the lives of our members and families through collective action, social activism, and community service.

Caniesha Washington with OPEIU Local 2 President, Dan Dyer



OPEIU Local 2 Rising Stars "Step Up" Committee Report

Caniesha Washington, Co-Chair, Rising Stars "Step Up" Committee

OPEIU Local 2, Executive Board
OPEIU Local 2, Steward, AFGE
OPEIU Local 2, Social Events Committee
DC Young Trade Unionists, Executive Board Member

Christopher Levy, Co-Chair, Rising Stars "Step Up" Committee

OPEIU Local 2, Chief Steward, NLC

Members: Chelsea Bland, Jorae Williams, Michelle Wyvill, Keturah Raabe, Jason Kaufman, Erin Farmer, Terri McDade

Goals of the Committee

- Get younger members (under 40) educated and involved in the union, labor movement, and DC Metropolitan Labor community
- Educate others in the union about OPEIU, OPEIU Local 2 and other young worker advocacy group information and events
- Build coalitions with other like-minded progressive organizations

Below is a report of the activity for the OPEIU Local 2 Rising Stars "Step Up" Committee for 2013



February 2013

- February 6
 - Email invitation to all Local members to send a shop member to the Rising Stars "Step Up" Committee Meeting
 - Meeting announcement attached
- February 26
 - Rising Stars "Step Up" Committee Meeting
 - Meeting flyer & notes attached

March 2013

- Created and maintain the OPEIU Local 2 Facebook page
 - www.facebook.com/OPEIULocal2



Local 2 Facebook Page



- March 11
 - Rising Stars "Step Up" Committee article submitted to OPEIU International newsletter
 - Article attached
- March 14
 - Invited by the OPEIU Local 2 shop at B&C Trust funds to speak about the Rising Stars "Step Up" Committee
 - Attended the lunch and learn to discuss the committee and the benefits of getting young unionists more involved (Caniesha Washington, Chelsea Bland)



- April 2
 - Reported the activities of the Committee to the membership at the Local 2 General Membership meeting
 - Caniesha Washington (Co-Chair) nominated and elected to attend the OPEIU National Convention as an Alternate Delegate.

April 2013



- April 24
 - Rising Stars "Step Up" Committee Meeting
 - Meeting flyer & notes attached
- April 25
 - Ran a contest for new "likes" to the OPEIU Local 2 Facebook page
 - Gave away three OPEIU Local 2 trinket packages

May 2013

- May 1 – 12
 - Publicize and participated in the National Association of Letter Carriers "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive
- May 15
 - Attend DC Young Trade Unionist (AFL-CIO DC Metro Council young worker group) Meeting
 - Reflections on attendance of first meeting attached.



June 2013

- June 2
 - Attended Rising Stars Youth Initiative Workshop at the OPEIU National Convention (Caniesha Washington and Christopher Levy)
 - Made connections with other young OPEIU members and maintain contact.





DC YTU Meeting



Marriage Equality rally



Labor Night



DC YTU Happy Hour



Rising Stars Youth Initiative



YW Action Session

- June 3 - 8
 - Attended the 26th OPEIU International Convention
 - Posted in real time the information, events and activities of the OPEIU Local 2 delegation and important OPEIU information at the OPEIU International Convention on the Local 2 Facebook page (Caniesha Washington)

- June 26
 - Marriage Equality Rally

July 2013

- July
 - Appointed members of the DC Young Trade Unionist Executive Board and Planning Committee (Caniesha Washington and Jorae Williams)
 - Designated an administrator to help maintain the DC Young Trade Unionists Facebook page (Caniesha Washington)
- July 19
 - DC Labor Night at Nats Park
- July 25
 - Attend DC Young Trade Unionist (AFL-CIO DC Metro Council young worker group) Meeting

August 2013

- August 29
 - Attend DC Young Trade Unionist (AFL-CIO DC Metro Council young worker group) happy hour with other seasoned OPEIU leaders

September 2013

- September 7
 - Attend the AFL-CIO Convention young worker activities (Caniesha Washington and Christopher Levy)
- September 8
 - Attend the AFL-CIO Convention Diversity Summit (Caniesha Washington and Christopher Levy)
- September 9 - 11
 - Attended all of the AFL-CIO Convention young worker meet ups
 - Helped to lead a discussion in the AFL-CIO Convention's young worker action session (Caniesha Washington)
- September 21
 - Worked with the Social Events Committee to increase the visibility and advertising for the Local 2 "End of Summer" Picnic



- Took pictures of the event (Chelsea Bland)
- Posted pics and updates to Facebook
- Provided games and toys for the children that attended the picnic (kite, bubbles, colored chalk, etc.)

- September 31
 - Reported the activities of the Committee to the membership at the Local 2 General Membership meeting

October 2013

- October 4
 - Hosted a young worker Happy Hour

November 2013

- November 2
 - Door knocking and Canvassing with the No. Virginia Labor Council for Virginia elections
 - Write up and picture in the OPEIU Local 2 "White Collar" attached
 - Designed and distributed a canvassing BINGO for all canvassers to bring some fun into the day's activities
- November 23
 - Gave a Rising Stars "Step Up" Committee presentation at the Local 2 Shop Stewards training.

December 2013

- December 4
 - Attended the White House Youth Summit with other young leaders
- December 6
 - Worked with the Social Events Committee to increase the visibility and advertising for the Local 2 Holiday Party
 - Suggested that Holiday cards and gifts be given to attendees
 - Took pictures of the event and made a holiday "picture frame" for members to take fun pictures (Chelsea Bland)
 - Posted pics to Facebook
 - Provided holiday candy with a message from the Committee
- December 11
 - Rising Stars "Step Up" Committee Meeting
 - Meeting flyer & notes attached
- December 15
 - Helped to plan and host the DC Young Trade Unionist Holiday Party
 - Football theme with a football pool for Holiday gifts

ACTION ITEMS IN PROGRESS/PENDING

- New Hire Toolkit
 - A lot of the young committee members reflected on their first days at work and most, for whatever reason, didn't hear much from the union. We want to change that! We want to develop a general welcome packet that OPEIU Local 2 shops can use as a guide on welcoming new hires.

The toolkit would include:

- Updateable Welcome letter
 - Contact information for Shop Committees and Local
 - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) by new employees
 - Information on Weingarten Rights
 - List of benefits to OPEIU members
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- Leadership forum
 - Bringing our seasoned unionists together with our young leaders to share their stories and answer questions to help guide our up and comers
 - OPEIU Rising Stars “Step Up” Committee Trinkets
 - Designing hip and fresh OPEIU Local 2 t-shirts and buttons