

## **Resolution #79A-23-07**

### **Retired Member Council Eligibility for CWA Disaster Relief Fund**

The CWA Disaster Relief Fund is a compassion fund and its sole purpose is to assist members who experience financial hardship due to a natural disaster as declared by FEMA. The Fund awards the member with a grant based on their essential losses and damages associated with their primary home. This program is a benefit of being a CWA member.

The Disaster Relief Fund is funded through the Member Relief Fund. It is supervised by the CWA Disaster Relief Fund Committee which is composed of the CWA President, Secretary-Treasurer and a staff member. Benefits are awarded in the range of \$500 - \$1,000. Final disbursement of funds is approved by the CWA Disaster Relief Fund Committee.

Eligibility for support through the Disaster Relief Fund is currently limited to active members and retirees paying full dues to a CWA local.

CWA Retired Members Council (RMC) is a long-standing part of CWA composed of retirees who have remained committed to the work of the union. There isn't a picket line they don't march on, a phone bank they don't participate in or mobilization they turn out for when called upon. In addition, many RMC members support our Political Action Fund (PAF) through contributions.

RMC members have demonstrated commitment by paying dues to the RMC and becoming Lifetime Members of CWA in good standing by paying membership fees directly or through their Locals. Approximately 60,000 CWA retirees are RMC members.

These members of the RMC have demonstrated their commitment to supporting all members and retirees of CWA financially and through their engagement in our union's many fights. As active and engaged former members of CWA, they are a valued part of our CWA family.

**RESOLVED:** Retired CWA members who are dues paying CWA Retired Member Council (RMC) members be included in eligibility for support through the Disaster Relief Fund.