

SEAT AT THE TABLE

For decades, corporate-backed politicians have traded away our jobs, wages, benefits and quality-of-life for corporate profits. Because of huge corporate campaign contributions and their armies of lobbyists, CEOs and executives are often the ones in the room when the decisions are actually being made.

But that has changed under President Joe Biden. CWA now has a genuine partner in the White House, and we have a real seat at the table that's translating into tangible results that will benefit CWAers and our families for decades to come.

Here are just a few examples of the way that our voice is now being heard in a meaningful way at the White House and throughout the Biden Administration:

→ In December, over two dozen members of CWA's Broadband Brigade attended a meeting at the White House with high-level staff from the White House, the Department of Labor, the FCC, the Department of Commerce and others to discuss broadband buildout and ensuring that we create good union jobs as we use funding from President Biden's infrastructure law to provide high-speed internet access to every American.



→ CWA Local 3519 Vice President Ylonda Sherrod participated in a [White House listening session](#) on the use of automated technologies by employers to surveil, monitor, evaluate, and manage their workers. Since then, the Department of Labor has [issued principles](#) on governing artificial intelligence that are focused on empowering workers and protecting labor and employment rights.



→ CWA President Cummings and IUE-CWA President Carl Kennebrev have had multiple phone and virtual meetings with the Secretary of Commerce, Gina Raimondo, to discuss workers' organizing rights and federal funding for the building of semiconductor factories in the U.S. These meetings paved the way for Micron to agree to meet with CWA to discuss organizing neutrality at its factories.

→ President Biden has appointed CWAers to key positions in his administration. He appointed former CWA member Celeste Drake to serve as the first ever Made in America Director for the White House's Office of Management and Budget. He also appointed former CWA counsel Jennifer Abruzzo to serve as General Counsel for the National Labor Relations Board.

→ Members of CWA Local 7304 who work for New Flyer had faced concerns in the past about a lack of hours or job cuts. Thanks to investments from President Biden's Inflation Reduction

Act and his infrastructure law, they have been busy filing orders for electric buses for transportation systems across the country. Vice President Harris visited the factory in St. Cloud early in 2023 and meet with CWA members. (pic)

- CWA President Claude Cummings, AFA-CWA Vice President Keturah Johnson, and multiple rank-and-file CWA members participated in a roundtable meeting at the White House with Secretary of Labor Julie Su, White House Director of Public Engagement Steve Benjamin, and others to discuss ways that unions benefit Black workers and help grow the middle class.
- Jeremy Przybilla, a member of Local 7212 and a splicing technician for rural broadband coop CTC in Minnesota, participated in a White House Talent Pipeline Challenge event, where he demonstrated to senior White House officials proper technique for broadband splicing and explained why it was so important to have union members doing the job so that they do it well.
- CWA District 7 Vice President Susie McAllister participated in a roundtable with high-level White House officials on clean bus manufacturing to emphasize the importance of using union labor.
- Bobbie Keitt, an Administrative Assistant at the University of South Carolina and a member of UCW-CWA Local 3765, met with Secretary Su about the need for fair pay for campus workers and the importance of solidarity. Su expressed support for UCW-CWA's mission and encouraged campus workers to continue organizing.
- Rhyanna Eichner, a member of CODE-CWA who works for Microsoft subsidiary Zenimax, spoke at [an event](#) hosted by the Department of Labor focused on how it is beneficial for both workers and companies for the companies to remain neutral in union organizing campaigns. The Department of Labor has publicly [commended](#) Microsoft for working in good faith with Zenimax workers organizing with CWA and encouraged more companies to adopt similar labor-friendly approaches.
- CWA members Jenn Chow, Autumn Mitchell and Alex Speidel met with President Biden, Vice President Harris and other key administration officials to share their experiences and advocate for stronger rules to protect our organizing and bargaining rights as part of the White House Task Force on Worker Organizing and Empowerment's work.



Having a seat at the table is allowing us to enact important policy changes that will benefit CWA members, retirees and our families for years to come!

CWA