



WOMEN OF STEEL NEWS

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FROM THE UNION

USW endorses Kamala Harris for President

The USW [proudly endorsed Vice President for Kamala Harris](#) on July 22, citing her role in the “most pro-labor administration in our lifetime.”

USW International President David McCall also pointed to Harris’ strong record of delivering for workers during her time in office, noting that the USW enthusiastically endorsed her twice before as a vice presidential candidate.

“Vice President Harris cast the critical, tie-breaking vote when it came to securing more than a million workers’ pensions, including those of 120,000 USW members,” said McCall.

[Among other accomplishments](#), Harris took charge of the White House Task Force on Worker Organizing and Empowerment, breaking down barriers for workers forming unions.

[Click here to view and read the Biden-Harris administration’s response](#) to our 2024 Federal Questionnaire addressed progress the pair have made on our core issues and outlined plans to keep this momentum going forward well into the future.

SISTER STORIES

Paige Cisco prioritizes health and safety at Local 689 in Ohio

For Paige Cisco of Local 689, fighting for workers’ health and safety is what motivates her every day.

Cisco first began working at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Ohio six years ago in order to be closer to her family. Both her parents worked at the plant, and her father was facing cancer for the second time.

One thing she knew she wanted to do with her time in the union, especially since the nuclear field can be a dangerous one, was become a health and safety representative.

“I don’t want anyone getting sick again like my dad,” she said. “I don’t want anyone else to struggle the way my family has struggled.”

Cisco said that many outsiders, and even some atomic workers, believe the only risk of the job is radiation. Chemical exposure is also a concern as workers at the plant tear down old facilities and enrich uranium.

“I care about everyone out there, and this new generation coming in has no historical knowledge about the industry and its dangers,” said Cisco.



The full-time health and safety representative educates her fellow members every chance she gets, as well as serving as a worker-trainer through the USW Tony Mazzocchi Center. Her team is currently implementing hazard mapping to train everyone across the massive atomic site.

Cisco believes this education is vital as the local’s membership continues to grow.

“We’re organizing constantly,” she said. “People want to join the union and work here.”

Cisco was first motivated to get more involved in the union, particularly the USW Women of Steel Leadership Development Course, from the encouragement of two women in her local.

“Watching those two and how they handle things made me want to get involved,” she said. “I want to keep the gate open so more women step up when the older generation leaves. I want to be a mentor the way others were mentors for me.”

What Cisco loves most about the leadership program is its focus on comradery and self-care.

“What we learn goes beyond the union,” she said. “It’s really about building us up as people and making us the best version of ourselves.”

IN THE NEWS

Biden-Harris administration launches initiative to take on corporate tricks and scams

This past Monday, President Biden and Vice President Harris launched “Time Is Money,” a new governmentwide effort to crack down on all the ways that corporations—through excessive paperwork, hold times, and general aggravation—add unnecessary headaches and hassles to people’s days and degrade their quality of life.

The initiative aims to make it easier to cancel subscriptions and memberships; end airline runarounds by requiring automatic cash refunds; allow Americans to submit health claims online; help streamline parent communication with schools, and more.

[Click here to read more about Time Is Money.](#)