

Walmart Employees Return to Company Headquarters Demanding Change

On October 12, Making Change at Walmart, along with nearly 100 members of the Organization United for Respect at Walmart (OUR Walmart), returned to Walmart's home office in Bentonville, Ark., and asked to meet with Walmart CEO Mike Duke for the second time in six months. The employees were in Bentonville to offer solutions for improving Walmart's ailing U.S. store operations on the same day that Wall Street analysts and investors were attending the company's annual investor conference. As expected, Walmart refused the meeting.

"Walmart's failure to respect its workers is a big reason why the company is stuck in a rut," said Maggie Van Ness, a current Walmart associate from Lancaster, Calif. "We have solutions to turn things around and the company ought to listen to us."



Nearly 100 members of OUR Walmart were turned away from Walmart's home office as they asked to speak with CEO Mike Duke.

On October 11, OUR Walmart members talked to Wall Street analysts about the company's worsening business conditions. An audio podcast of that meeting, and a report titled, *The High Price of Low Cost*, are available at www.MakingChangeatWalmart.com/analyst. **OP**

Colorado Medical Cannabis Workers Join UFCW Local 7

On October 17, UFCW Local 7 announced that a comprehensive cross section of hundreds of Colorado's medical cannabis industry workers have voted overwhelmingly for a voice on the job by joining UFCW Local 7. UFCW Local 7 is the largest union in Colorado, with over 25,000 members.

"We are proud to join our new sisters and brothers in the 1.3 million member UFCW family of retail grocery, pharmacy workers, agriculture workers, food processors, meat cutters, textile workers, and health care workers in North America," said Steve Ackerman of Organic Alternatives, a retail medical cannabis center. "We realize that medical cannabis is part of the retail health care, agriculture, and food processing industry and our union is the industry union of all these categories. It's a natural fit, and we are very proud to be part of Local 7 and UFCW's international family"

UFCW Local 7 President, Kim Cordova said, "We are the retail food, pharmacy, agriculture, food processing, and health care union in Colorado and around the nation. Our union has over 100 years of experience representing these types of workers. We intend for our collective bargaining agreements to serve as a first line of regulation in the communities our members work in, and we are proud to do it."

The UFCW and our members are dedicated to a dignified, controlled, taxed, regulated, compliant and unionized medical cannabis industry and stand in solidarity with the workers and patients of the unionized medical cannabis industry.

Medical cannabis is a safe and effective treatment option for many serious medical conditions, including cancer. The medical cannabis retail industry employs thousands of workers and contributes tens of millions of tax dollars to Colorado's economy. **OP**

UFCW Local 75 Members Join Teamsters, Public Employees, and Faith Leaders in Toledo and Cincinnati to Rally for Good Jobs

UFCW Local 75 members came together with their Teamster brothers and sisters last week to rally for good jobs in Ohio. On October 11, nearly 800 Local 75 members turned out for a joint rally with Teamsters Joint Council 26. Then, on October 12 in Toledo, almost 300 Local 75 members turned out, joining members of Teamsters Local 20.

Local 75 members took the time to come out for these rallies because they know how important it is to fight for good jobs in their neighborhoods - and that includes fighting to defeat Issue 2, Ohio's harmful anti-worker law. Both rallies featured local firefighters and faith leaders, and Local 75 was proud to be joined by Teamsters International President James P. Hoffa.



UFCW Local 75 members rallied for good jobs in Ohio.

"Good jobs grow our communities. Good jobs allow parents to put dinner on the table, make a home, and to send their kids to college," said UFCW Local 75 President Lennie Wyatt. "Politicians shouldn't tell us that good jobs are destroying our neighborhoods; good jobs are what make safe, vibrant communities for all of us."

To see more photos from the rallies, visit Local 75 on Facebook. **OP**

UFCW Members Support Occupy Wall Street Movement

From New York to Pennsylvania to Washington, UFCW Locals 21, 23, 1776, RWDSU and others are supporting the Occupy Wall Street movement to hold Wall Street accountable for our country's staggering wealth gap and its role in corrupting our political system.

Occupy Wall Street is a movement started by ordinary Americans who are fed up with the growing inequality in this country. They are shining a spotlight on the economic and social issues that the UFCW has always fought for and have taken to the streets to protest corporate greed and demand good jobs now.

The wasted economic potential of the millions of Americans who are unemployed or underemployed is a national tragedy. But the tragedy goes deeper than statistics alone. In all this turmoil, many Americans are lowering their expectations for the future and believe they will never achieve the American dream of owning a home, sending their children to college or retiring comfortably.

It is time for the 99 percent to be heard. The UFCW is proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with these brave Americans and encourages our members to join and send photos of Occupy actions in their communities.

If your local has occupied a main street in your community, send us photos at submissions@ufcw.org. **OP**



UFCW Local 1776 members and others are supporting the Occupy Wall Street movement.