

Heinz Workers at Two Locals Unite for Better Contract

Heinz workers in Fremont, Ohio, and Muscatine, Iowa, have ratified two separate five-year deals with the company. Although they were working to negotiate two different contracts, the members (who belong to UFCW Locals 75 and 431, respectively) worked together to make sure both groups left the table with a good deal.

Committee members from each local routinely attended and supported the negotiations of their sister plant, and distributed handbills that let their co-workers and the company know that while the details of their contracts might be different, their priorities - affordable health care, and good jobs with middle class opportunities - were the same. "We can't stand alone," said Bob Bigford from the Muscatine plant. "The consequences are mighty when you stand alone."

Both units were able to negotiate 3% wage increases every year for each year of the contract as well as an increase in their pension contributions. Both units also maintained affordable health care benefits. In Muscatine, negotiations reduced the waiting period for medical, vision, and dental eligibility. In addition, they were also able to add limits to the use of temporary workers, improve tool allowances, shorten and simplify grievance language, and improve language that allows union representatives access to the plant.

Kyle Smith, a member of Local 431, was glad the bargaining committee was able to address the issue of temporary workers. "People want to stay, and they work hard to keep a job at Heinz. They want a permanent job, and I want them to have the same opportunity I did." **OP**



UFCW Calls on Walmart's Leadership to Resign



In light of the alleged Walmart bribery and cover-up scandal in Mexico, UFCW President Joe Hansen is calling on Walmart Chairman Rob Walton and CEO Mike Duke to resign immediately through an online petition in an effort to restore integrity and accountability for Walmart associates, shareholders, customers, and communities.

The New York Times recently reported a widespread pattern of Walmart executives bribing government officials to secure permits to build stores in Mexico, followed by a cover-up led by corporate leaders, including Walton and Duke. The news article raised serious questions about whether Walmart has used the same tactics for its expansion in the United States and across the globe.

As Walmart prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary, it's imperative that the retail giant's leadership come clean and listen to and respect its associates, shareholders, customers and communities. To sign the petition calling for the resignation of Walton and Duke, please go to <http://chn.ge/IUdxix>. **OP**

UFCW Launches National Retail Justice Alliance

The UFCW Civil Rights and Community Action Department has launched the National Retail Justice Alliance to raise the standards of retail workers in the United States, and align the UFCW's various retail campaigns with economic and social justice issues.

With the goal of building capacity and support for retail workers seeking dignity, equality and respect in the workplace and their communities, the alliance will collaborate with a broad



Members of the National Retail Justice Alliance recently invited African American leaders from around the country to meet with Walmart workers and to highlight Walmart's ties with ALEC.

base of opinion leaders, organizations and communities, including the African American, Latino and Asian communities. The alliance will also collaborate with leaders and policy makers affiliated with youth, religious, women's rights and environmental rights organizations.

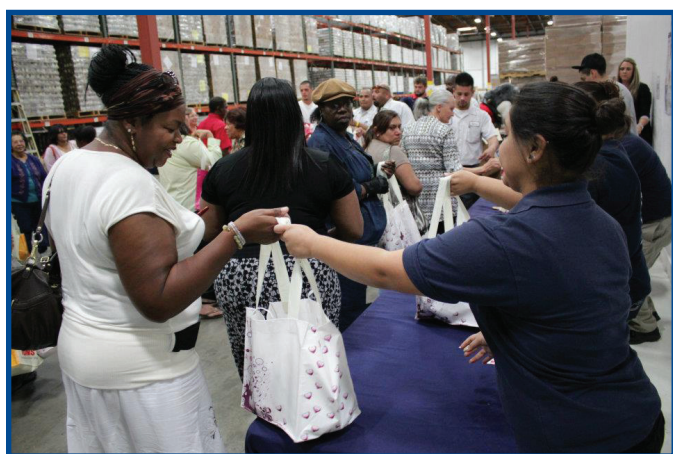
The alliance is working closely with the Making Change at Walmart campaign to highlight Walmart's spotty labor track record, as well as the retail giant's affiliation with the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). ALEC is well known for its cookie-cutter legislation that advances conservative and corporate interests, including "Stand Your Ground," the same law that was protecting the alleged killer of Trayvon Martin before a special prosecutor intervened.

Members of the alliance, including the National Congress of Black Women, Inc., and NAACP, recently invited African American leaders from around the country to meet with Walmart workers and highlight Walmart's ties with ALEC. For more information about the National Retail Justice Alliance, please contact Robin Williams at (202) 466-1532. To sign a petition calling on Walmart to sever its ties to ALEC, please go to <http://goo.gl/tgqZ2>. **OP**

UFCW, Smithfield Continue Feeding the Hungry Tour in Fresno, Calif.

In a continued effort to address the growing number of people facing food insecurity in our communities, members from UFCW Local 8GS and Smithfield delivered 70,000 servings of protein to the Community Food Bank in Fresno. The donation was part of the ongoing "Feeding the Hungry" tour. The campaign is a joint program of the UFCW and Smithfield to

donate and help deliver 20 million servings of protein over three years to food assistance organizations across the country. The April 24 donation came at a time when donations are down but the need is greater than ever. UFCW Coordinator Mike Fursman said, "Everybody thinks to donate when it's Christmas or Easter. It's the days in-between those times when donations are needed the most." For more information about the "Feeding the Hungry" tour, please go to <http://bit.ly/IJlLQ>. **OP**



On April 24, members from UFCW Local 8GS and Smithfield donated 70,000 servings to the Community Food Bank in Fresno.

6th Annual 2012 SICKLE CELL 5K WALK

PAIN kNOW more...

Telephone: (202) 865-8366 www.soswalk.org

SATURDAY, September 15 ★ Blood Drive & Screenings
9AM - 12 Noon ★ Give-A-Ways
FREEDOM PLAZA ★ Vendors, entertainment and much more...
 Pennsylvania Avenue
 btw. 13th & 14th Streets, NW
 Washington, DC

Online Registration:
Ages 18 and up

Early Bird Registration
April 1 - July 31, \$20

Regular Registration
August 1 - Sep 4, - \$25

www.soswalk.org