HIGHLIGHTS

Organizing and Bargaining

• Developed LEARN WorkFamily (www.learnworkfamily.org), a new resource for unions featuring the nation’s only online database of union contract language on work family issues.

• Co-authored report Family Friendly Workplace – Do Unions Make a Difference? with UC Berkeley Labor Center showing that unionized workplaces have better work family policies.

• Published an Op-Ed in the San Jose Mercury News supporting the Employee Free Choice Act as an essential step to build family friendly workplaces.

Advocacy

• Helped launch the National Work and Family Collaborative to promote work family issues in the Obama Administration including the White House Task Force on Middle Class Families, White House Council on Women and Girls, the First Lady’s office and the Department of Labor.

• Played a leadership role in Family Values @ Work, a consortium of labor-community coalitions in 11 states to advance family friendly policies at the state level.

• Led a statewide labor-community coalition (California Work and Family Coalition) to advocate and mobilize for work family policies including Paid Sick Days and expanded family leave laws.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Unions build family friendly workplaces— and we help make this happen.

This year, the Labor Project for Working Families worked on a report about the crucial role of unions in fostering family friendly workplaces. We provided our union allies some great new resources to use to ensure that workers do not have to choose between a job and a life. We brought together unions, advocacy and community groups to advance statewide and national family friendly policies. We spoke out for workers’ right to organize and collectively bargain to improve workplace standards.

Our efforts have by no means been easy, but we know that they have made a difference. We owe our successes to your support. Unions, labor councils, state federations, foundations and individuals – you make it possible for us to continue this work. Thank you for your commitment. We look forward to your ongoing support as we embark on new and exciting opportunities for change.

Netsy Firestein
Executive Director, Labor Project for Working Families

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

It has been a challenging year for our working families – but also a year of new opportunities for change. Amidst it all, the Labor Project for Working Families has stood steadfast and committed to advocate for our working families. Over the past year, the Labor Project has built solidarity between unions, advocacy and community groups and championed important family friendly policies such as paid sick days, family leave, and worker-controlled workplace flexibility. This year, the Labor Project has brought to light the critical role of unions in improving workplace standards. The Labor Project’s online labor education and resource network LEARN WorkFamily and research report Family Friendly Workplaces – Do Unions Make a Difference? show how unions are using the power of organizing and collective bargaining to build family friendly workplaces.

Your support has been crucial this year. We look forward to your continued support of the Labor Project – together we can promote the health and economic security of our working families.

Art Pulaski
Chair, Board of Directors, Labor Project for Working Families
Executive Secretary Treasurer, California Labor Federation
Labor Project staff presented panels and workshops at regional and national labor and work family events including:

- AFSCME Women’s Leadership Conference (AFSCME’s 38th International Convention)
- 2008 Bioneers Conference
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Conference
- Labor and Employment Relations Association Annual Meeting
- California Working Families Policy Summit
- Association on Aging Annual Conference
- Minnesota Union Women’s Leadership Retreat
- United Association of Labor Educators Annual Conference
- UC Berkeley Center on Health, Economic and Family Security Roundtable

- Union Strategy and Work-Family Flexibility joint conference sponsored by the Labor Project with Michigan State University
- Multiple trainings for California unions on family leave laws

“With a problem this big, we need innovative solutions. We can rely on the Labor Project for cutting edge resources and policy initiatives around balancing work and family. There are other advocacy groups addressing work family issues, but the Labor Project is the only national organization developing solutions from a union perspective.”

Mary Kay Henry
International Executive Vice President, SEIU

“Labor Project for Working Families has been a leading voice in the Family Values @ Work Coalition. They’ve inspired us with their pacesetting campaigns to win paid family leave, to expand the definition of family, and to lay the groundwork for bringing paid sick days to the entire state of California. The broad coalition they’ve helped bring together has been an excellent model for all of us. And the Labor Project has helped other state coalitions deepen their connections with local unions. We applaud their work and wish them continued success!”

Ellen Bravo
Coordinator, Family Values @ Work, a Multi-State Consortium

“When AFSCME wants the latest data, a new curriculum, or an online resource on work family issues, we always turn to the Labor Project for Working Families. We know that the information is well researched, reliable, insightful and on target for union members. The Labor Project is a strong advocate for workers and has been making a difference in workplaces and homes across America.”

Yvonne Syphax
Assistant Director, Women’s Leadership Development
AFSCME Education Department

**HONORS**

- The 2008 Rosalinde Gilbert Innovations in Alzheimer’s Disease Caregiving Legacy Award for our policy and advocacy efforts on family leave in California.
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Coalition of Labor Union Women – East Bay Chapter  
CWA Local 1034  
*CWA - Southern California Council  
*Florida Professional Firefighters International Association of Machinists  
IFPTE Local 21  
SEIU Local 721  
UFCW Local 5  
*United Teachers Los Angeles

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*ATU Local 265  
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*CWA Local 9000  
CWA Local 9410  
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Harvard Union of Clerical and Technical Workers  
IBEW Local 6  
IBEW Local 1245  
IFPTE Local 17  
ILWU Northern California District Council  
North Bay Labor Council  
OPEIU Local 3  
OPEIU Local 29  
*Sacramento Central Labor Council  
San Bernardino-Riverside Counties CLC  
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Labor Project for Working Families  
2521 Channing Way, #5555  
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OUR MISSION
The Labor Project for Working Families partners with unions to advocate for family friendly workplaces because no one should have to choose between work and family.

OUR VISION
We envision a world in which all workers have time and resources to care for themselves and their families.

OUR WORK
Founded in 1992, the Labor Project is a national non-profit organization that educates and empowers unions to organize, bargain and advocate for family friendly workplaces. We build broad based coalitions that unite labor, community and advocacy groups to advance policies that put families first.

OUR VALUES
Our work is guided by three core values that are fundamental to our mission and vision. We believe in modeling the kind of workplace we advocate for by honoring these values in our own workplace.

Respecting Caregiver Diversity
We believe that a family friendly workplace is one that values caregivers – both paid and unpaid – and respects their diverse needs to promote a healthy and viable balance between work and home life. We recognize a broad definition of family that includes an array of relationships and living situations.

Building Solidarity
We believe that unions play a pivotal role in advancing family friendly policies as part of a broader effort to promote the health and economic security of working families. We support workers’ right to organize and collectively bargain as an essential strategy for improving workplace standards. We strive to build solidarity between unions, advocacy and community groups in all our work.

Valuing Innovation
We believe in thinking big and breaking new ground. We are in it for the long haul and we are committed to growth and change as the workforce evolves. We seek and heed a diversity of opinions from our colleagues, partners and all those with whom we interact to build innovative solutions for complex problems.