

## **Introduction to UFCW Local 1994 MCGEO**

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the MCGEO family. The Municipal & County Government Employees Organization (MCGEO) United Food & Commercial Worker Local 1994, CLC was chartered in November 1993. We are a predominantly public sector union that believes in the fundamental dignity of all people. We represent over 8,000 Employees in Montgomery County Government, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Housing Opportunities Commission, the Prince George's County Memorial Library System and the Cumberland City Police Department. Our collective bargaining agreements are among the most innovative and progressive in the region. Consequently, our bargaining unit members enjoy some of the largest pay increases in the region.

Under Maryland state and local law, we are your exclusive representative for the negotiation of your wages, benefits, and working conditions. Further, we are your only representative in cases of contract violations by your employer. We are supported solely by the dues of our members, which allows our staff to serve you and the rest of the membership in contract negotiations and disciplinary situations. To participate in your union, you must complete an application for membership. Within sixty (60) days of obtaining merit status and completing an application, you will become an active member of UFCW local 1994.

As an active member, you have full voting rights and access to all supplemental membership benefits. A list of these benefits, available exclusively to active union members, is enclosed. Although there is no additional charge for being an active members of MCGEO, there are many rewards. Any questions you may have about these benefits can be directed to the Membership Coordinator at 301-977-2447.

In 1996, your union began building a political defense fund for our members, called the Active Ballot Club (ABC). As public employees, your union-negotiated pay raises, health care, retirement benefits, as well as decisions regarding A contracting out of your jobs must pass by a majority vote of either elected or appointed public officials who determine your employer's operating budget. Since public employees do not have the right to strike, MCGEO uses its political strength to encourage politicians to support the needs of our members. MCGEO's fight for a working family's agenda depends solely upon the generosity of the membership through ABC deductions.

We hope you will join the Active Ballot Club by completing the enclosed form and checking a box that is as far to the right as you are comfortable. Should you decide to contribute to this most important fund, you may give your completed form to any Shop Steward, or return it to the union office directly. If you have already completed an ABC form, thank you for your generosity, and please pass the enclosed form along to a co-worker who may not have had the opportunity to contribute to the ABC.

We look forward to serving your employment needs!