Pre-Retirement Workshops

Recruiting the Next Wave of Retiree Activists

Presenters
• Calvin MacDowell – Senior Associate, Retirees
  AFT | Organization and Field Services
Senior Scams

Insufficient COLAs

Medicare Privatization
Ice Breaker Survey!

• By a show of hands:
  • Pre-retirees
    - If you retired tomorrow, would you have all the information you need to ensure a secure retirement?
  • Retirees
    – Thinking about when you retired, do you wish you had had more help navigating the transition to retirement?
Pre-retirement Workshop – Five W's

Why and how AFT affiliates run workshops

Examples from AFT affiliates on the ground

Discuss how to integrate a workshop into an organizing program

Q&A
What?

• The Pre-Retirement Workshop

• Retirement information for members

• Building relationships

• Strengthening Community Partnerships

• Leadership Development
Who?

Attendees:

• Prioritize retiring members

• Any current in-service member

• Any current retiree
Who?
Facilitators:

• Retiree leaders
  • Potential leaders
• Partner Organizations
  • Retirement System
  • Retiree Healthcare Plan
  • Financial Services Representative
• Member Benefits
• Department/office on aging
• Who else?
Where?

- Familiarity
  - Union hall
  - Library
  - Community Center

- Partner organization space

- Include in annual union meeting or event

- Virtual
  - Leave space for relationship building
When?

- Know your members
- Plan around a retirement deadline
- Is there a time of year at which it is common for members to retire?
Why?
Pre-Retirement to Activism – New York
Pre-Retirement to Activism – New York
Prejubilación a Activismo – Puerto Rico
Prejubilación a Activismo – Puerto Rico
Pre-Retirement to Activism – Connecticut
Pre-Retirement to Activism – Connecticut
Pre-Retirement to Activism – Connecticut
Pre-Retirement to Activism – New Mexico
Pre-Retirement to Activism – New Mexico
Engagement

- Workshops offer many opportunities to engage:
  - List building
  - Priority campaigns
  - Leader ID and development
  - Increase program awareness
  - Relationship building
  - Strengthen community partnerships
  - If we don’t engage our members when they retire, someone will!
An Organizing Opportunity

• Listen & build one-on-one relationships

• Increase program awareness

• Engage in Relational Organizing

• Make the ask

• Build your Activist Cadre
OUR MISSION

The **American Federation of Teachers** is a union of professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We are committed to advancing these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through the work our members do.

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