



North Coast Regional Newsletter

August 2025

Honoring the Life of Mari Bonnici

We're in shock & deeply saddened by [Mari Bonnici's tragic passing](#).

Mari joined the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office in 2013 as a Detention Specialist. Mari will be remembered as a caring and thoughtful coworker.

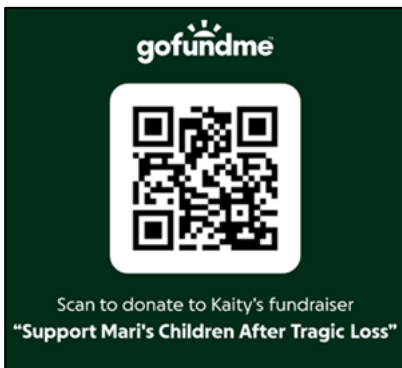
Mari was a loving mother of 3 children, who are living with family members.

Our deepest condolences to all of the families, friends & coworkers affected by this tragedy.



Mari Bonnici

How to Help Mari's Children



A [GoFundMe](#) is available to support Mari's 3 children.

Michelle Hume from the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office is collecting gift cards for the family if you prefer. All 3 kids are still in diapers, so gift cards for stores where young child supplies can be purchased are appreciated. Gift cards can be dropped off for Michelle Hume at the [Sonoma County Sheriff's Main Office](#) or the [Main Adult Detention Facility \(MADF\)](#).

Please donate if you can afford to.

Contract Bargaining Updates

It's been a busy bargaining year: **26** of the **37** chapters in our North Coast Region are bargaining *this* year.

Sonoma County Libraries Ratified their New Contract!

COLA = Cost of Living Adjustment; a raise to keep up with the rising cost of goods & services (inflation).

Year	1	2	3
COLA	3%	3%	3%

Our Sonoma County Libraries chapter ratified a 3-year contract!

The new contract includes 3% *retroactive* to January 1st of this year (2025), then 3% each January of years 2 & 3. They'll also receive an increase in the Wellness program benefit, improved Holiday language, and market adjustments for several classifications.

Thank you to everyone who participated on the bargaining team; we appreciate your dedication and hard work on this contract, which will improve the working & living conditions of your fellow members.

Novato's Historic 3-Day Strike

Our City of Novato chapter held a 3-day unfair labor practice strike on August 5th – 7th.

The turnout was incredible, and the community support was palpable:

[Video montage of the strike](#) / [CBS News Coverage](#) / [KPIX News Coverage](#) / [FOX News Coverage](#)



Novato Members on Strike at Novato City Hall on Day 1.



Jack Buckhorn, Executive Director of North Bay Labor Council, spoke at our rally at Novato City Hall on Day 1. Eric Lucan, Marin County Supervisor (standing behind Jack) also spoke in support of our members.



Novato Members on Strike at South Novato Blvd on Day 2.

The strategy of our 3-day strike worked perfectly, we:

- Shut down the city!
 - The remainder of the Recreation Department's summer programming was cancelled.
- Got the court of public opinion on our side by:
 - Securing over 20 Bay Area news segments!
 - Putting our strike signs up in local business storefronts.
 - Getting community feedback on social media behind us, and critical of the City Council and Administration.
- Proved we can cripple the city overnight by withholding our labor.
- Gained a newfound respect at the bargaining table.
- Maintained our ability to go out on strike again at a moment's notice, which keeps the city scrambling.

Unfortunately, the City Council was on "summer break" and won't return until August 26th.

We're very proud of our Novato members for reclaiming their power with this successful strike!

We thank our *allies* who showed up to support our striking workers:

- **Jack Buckhorn**, *Executive Director of the North Bay Labor Council*
- **Eric Lucan**, *Marin County Supervisor*
- **Holli Their**, *Vice-Mayor of Tiburon*
- **Kris Organ**, *California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA)*
- **Jeremy Arnold**, *Field Representative with California School Employees Association (CSEA)*

We also appreciate the *SEIU 1021 Executive Board members* who joined our strike:

- **Travis Balzarini**, *North Coast Regional Vice President*
- **Mariette Shin**, *Marin County Area Representative*
- **Antoinette Blue**, *Cities Industry Chair*
- **Elizabeth Harrison**, *North Central Regional Vice President*
- **David Cameron**, *Counties Industry Chair*
- **Amanda Hubbell**, *Budget & Finance Committee (BFC) for the North Coast Region*
- **Andy La Torre**, *Budget & Finance Committee (BFC) for the North Central Region*

Finally, *thank you* to our *amazing* SEIU 1021 staff for ensuring this strike ran *smoothly & successfully*.

Sonoma County Office of Education (SCOE) Heading Towards a Strike

SCOE management has offered our members the State's Statutory COLA, which is below CPI-SF. We're asking for the State's Statutory COLA increase plus 3.5%.

We're also asking for Extended School Year Incentive Pay, an increase to Retiree Healthcare amounts, and to increase layoff assistance amounts.

The County Superintendent, Amie Carter, has stonewalled our bargaining team for months.

SCOE received strike sanctions from the North Bay Labor Council on July 23rd and the SEIU 1021 Executive Board on July 25th.

July In Review

ICE Out of Sonoma County Protest



Julia Rapkin (left) and Jen Miller (right) at the ICE Out of Sonoma County Protest.

The Truth Act requires a local legislative body to hold a community forum annually if local law enforcement allows ICE access to any individual.

For **Sonoma County** [that forum took place on July 22nd in the Board of Supervisors Chambers](#). Members of the immigrants' rights community spoke, while supporters gathered outside to make it known that we want zero cooperation between the Sheriff's Office and ICE.

Several of our members were in attendance to send a clear message: "ICE Out of Sonoma County!"

Amanda Hubbell sworn into the Budget & Finance Committee (BFC)

Amanda Hubbell was sworn in as our 2nd Region B member on the **Budget & Finance Committee (BFC)** during the SEIU 1021 Executive Board meeting in Fairfield on July 25th!

Amanda is a Social Service Worker III at our Sonoma County Chapter. She's been a Steward for several years & served on the Sonoma County Chapter Board as the At-Large Representative from 2022 – 2023.

Amanda is very active in politics: she was elected Vice Chair of our Sonoma COPE in March 2025 and is a delegate to the North Bay Labor Council. Amanda's also been very active organizing and participating in 50501 rallies across California.

Thank you, Amanda, for stepping up to ensure our members' money is invested responsibly!



President Theresa Rutherford (left) swearing in Amanda Hubbell (right).

New Field Representative Hired: **Kevin Arnold**



Kevin was trained as a worker organizer with UNITE HERE Local 11 in Los Angeles before getting a job at the Graton Resort and Casino, where he helped organize his coworkers through a successful union election while attending Sonoma State University.

Last year Kevin moved to Reno, Nevada to knock on thousands of doors with the Culinary Union UNITE HERE Local 226 before the 2024 election. This experience motivated Kevin to pursue a career that reflects his values of workers using their voices to improve their lives, their families and their communities in Sonoma County and beyond.

We're very excited that Kevin has joined our North Coast team!

SEIU Families First Peaceful Protests on July 26th



On July 26th at Snow Park in Oakland SEIU 1021 members, community groups, and other activists from across Northern California joined people in 50 states across the nation in peaceful protest to demand our families come first — not billionaires, not authoritarians, and not corrupt politicians.

The crowd heard from Medi-Cal recipients, healthcare professionals, caregivers, and community members who refuse to give up on the right to healthcare for all and an end to violent ICE raids that are tearing families apart. The crowd demanded a government that serves us, not one that hurts us. Our goal: an America where every family has food on the table, healthcare when they need it, and safety in their own neighborhood, no matter their zip code or immigration status.

Advanced Stewards Training

On July 31st, 16 of our Stewards from Sonoma County gathered at the Santa Rosa Union Hall to increase their knowledge and skills so we're better able to represent our coworkers through various difficult situations with expertise and empathy. Our Field Representatives, Joel Evans-Fudem and Kevin Arnold, led an informative and interactive 2-hour training largely focused on grievances.



Stewards attended Advanced Steward Training at the Santa Rosa Union Hall on July 31st.

We're always looking for more stewards to help support our members! If you're interested in joining a fantastic bunch of folks, check out the [Steward's Corner](#) below in this newsletter!

Upcoming Events

August 6 @ 6:00 – 7:30pm: Sonoma County COPE Meeting

Members who *live* or *work* in **Sonoma County** are invited to join our [Sonoma County COPE meeting via Zoom](#) to discuss local elected official races & ballot measures.

August 20 @ 10:00am – 3:00pm: Capital Lobby Day – Immigration Rights

The Trump administration increased immigration enforcement across the country and targeted communities in California. As a response, the California state legislature proposed:

- [SB 81](#) to add immigration status to patient privacy protections and require healthcare providers to prohibit immigration authorities from accessing a facilities' non-public area without valid paperwork.
- [SB 294](#) to require employers in the state to actively provide notice to employees about their labor and civil rights under state and federal law as it pertains to immigration enforcement.
- [SB 578](#) to adopt California Workplace Outreach Program (CWOP) in statute.
- [SB 580](#) to create model policies for state and local agencies relating to interaction with immigration authorities.
- [SB 627 "No Secret Police Act"](#) to make it a crime for a law enforcement officer to wear a facial covering in the performance of their duties.
- [SB 805](#) to ban bounty hunters from using their license to participate in federal immigration enforcement.

Please join us in Sacramento to encourage California legislators to continue protecting our immigrant neighbors. [Breakfast & lunch will be provided with RSVP.](#)

Location: [State Capitol Grounds - Area 33 - 13th Street & L Street, Sacramento](#)

August 21 @ 6:00 – 7:30pm: Latino Caucus Meeting

The SEIU 1021 Latino Caucus advocates for the development and advancement of all union members. We value human dignity, equality, solidarity, and the principles of democracy. We acknowledge diversity and traditions. [Sign up to the Latino Caucus email distribution list](#) to receive reminder emails with the Zoom link.

August 23 @ 10:00am – 12:30pm: Legal Observer Training

If you'd like to support immigrant community members, you're invited to attend **Legal Observer Training** with the [North Bay Rapid Response Network](#), a community-led first responder network.

Legal observers are trained in how to identify, document, and confirm ICE activity. Documenting actions by law enforcement is legally protected under the first amendment. The Rapid Response Network provides a 24-hour hotline to immigrants, dispatches trained legal observers, connects communities to legal defense, and offers accompaniment to families following an ICE raid.

This event is hosted by the SEIU 1021 Immigrant Rights Working Group. We're working collaboratively as union members to build power and develop stronger connections with the community.

Now is the time to come together as we see an increase in immigration enforcement, ICE raids, and other attacks in our communities. Let's build community and power, not panic!

Please reach out with any questions to: 1021Soco.ImmigrantRights@gmail.com

Location: [SEIU 1021 Union Hall @ 600 B Street, Santa Rosa](#)

SPACE IS LIMITED! [Please register as soon as possible.](#)

August 27 @ 5:00pm: North Bay Labor Council (NBLC) Meeting

The North Bay Labor Council (NBLC) is hosting our monthly meeting where delegates from unions across Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino & Lake counties meet to discuss & coordinate on local issues affecting our members. The meeting will be held in-person at the [UA Local 38 Hall: 3473 Santa Rosa Ave, Santa Rosa](#).

August 30 @ 7:30 – 9:30pm: “Pins and Needles” Musical at the Mercury Theater

Petaluma’s Mercury Theater is proud to open its inaugural season with “[Pins and Needles](#),” a musical revue by composer Harold Rome and a crew of Depression Era scribes first performed by members of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union in 1937.

Tickets are available at www.mercurytheater.org and are priced at \$35 General, \$30 Senior, \$20 Students. *Union members enjoy a discount at every performance.*

Mercury Theater is housed in the [Cinnabar Theater at 3333 Petaluma Blvd North, Petaluma](#).

August 31 @ 2:00 – 4:00pm: “Pins and Needles” Musical at the Mercury Theater

Tickets are available at www.mercurytheater.org and are priced at \$35 General, \$30 Senior, \$20 Students. *Union members enjoy a discount at every performance.*

Mercury Theater is housed in the [Cinnabar Theater at 3333 Petaluma Blvd North, Petaluma](#).

September 1 @ 7:30 – 10:30am: NBLC Labor Day Breakfast

The North Bay Labor Council (NBLC) is hosting their annual **Labor Day Breakfast**. *Free for SEIU 1021 members.*

Breakfast: 7:30 – 9:00am / Program (speeches by politicians): 9:30 – 10:30am

Location: [Teamsters Local 665 Union Hall: 1371 Neotomas Ave, Santa Rosa](#)

September 1 @ 2:00 – 4:00pm: “Pins and Needles” Musical at Mercury Theater

Tickets are available at www.mercurytheater.org and are priced at **\$10** in honor of **Labor Day**.

Mercury Theater is housed in the [Cinnabar Theater at 3333 Petaluma Blvd North, Petaluma](#).

September 3 @ 9:00am - 3:00pm: Capital Lobby Day – Protect Public Sector Jobs

On September 3rd the California Senate will vote on an important bill, [AB 339](#), to protect union jobs by improving notice times for contracting out. We need your voice to defend good union jobs and preserve vital public services!

Location: [SEIU CA State Council office, 1029 K Street, Sacramento](#)

You’re invited to join us at the Capital to lobby state legislators to make it harder to contract out bargaining unit work. *[Breakfast & lunch will be provided with RSVP.](#)*

September 13 & 14: NBLC Candidate Training

Are you interested in running for office or helping someone else run for office?

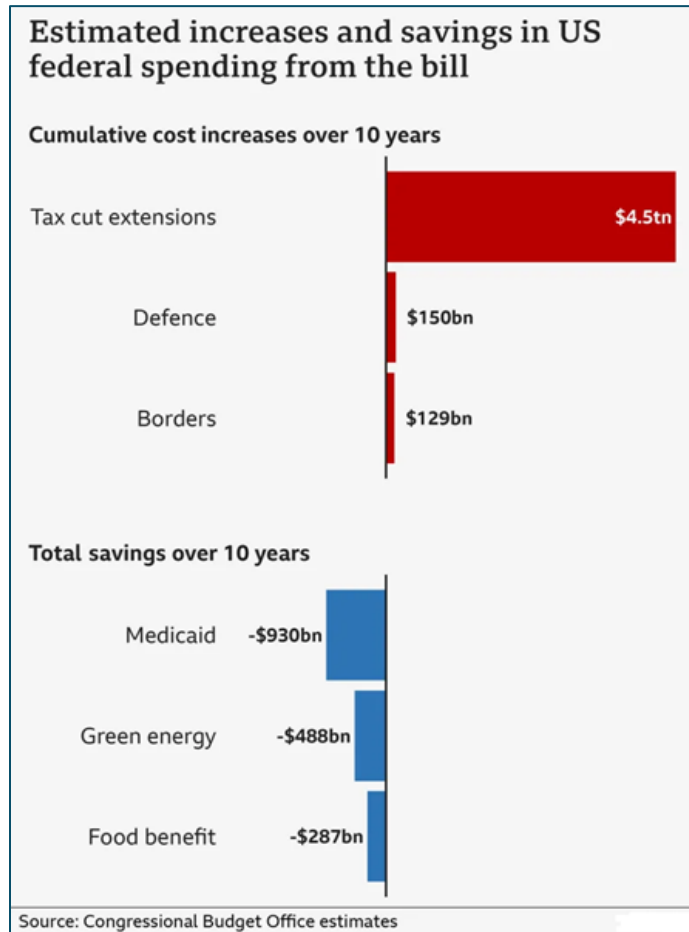
Then join the [North Bay Labor Council \(NBLC\) Candidate Training](#) held on [September 13 @ 9:00am – 4:00pm](#) & [September 14 @ 9:00am – 3:00pm](#).

You'll learn the basics about how to run a successful campaign and what you'll need to know to effectively represent working people. We're looking for strong leaders who will protect workers' rights.

Location: [3473 Santa Rosa Avenue, Santa Rosa](#)

Federal Attacks & Our Response

Republicans' "One Big Beautiful Bill Act" Signed on July 4th



Tax Cuts for the Rich, *Cost Increases for the Rest of Us*

Estimated After-Tax Income changes from Republicans' "One Big Beautiful Bill Act":

If you **earn less than \$17,000** per year, you'll **lose \$1,000** per year.

If you **earn \$17,000 – \$51,000** per year, you'll **lose \$700** per year.

If you **earn over \$4.3 Million** per year, you'll **gain \$389,000** per year.

Last month we focused on the Tax Cuts which benefit the rich, while working families get peanuts.

This month we'll focus on Food Assistance and Health Insurance Cuts.

Congressional Republicans delayed their worst cuts to healthcare and food assistance until after the 2026 midterm elections, knowing they wouldn't win re-election when people (voters) are suffering from their cruel & inhumane cost-cutting, while the rich enjoy massive tax cuts.

Food Assistance Cuts

Over 360,000 Californians will lose their entire or partial food assistance because of these cuts.

Food Assistance *Work Requirements* – Starting in 2025

Prior to this bill, adults under age 65 without a disability or without children in their home couldn't receive benefits for more than 3 months out of every 3 years, unless they documented working at least 20 hours per week, or proving they qualified for an exemption. This bill:

- Removes exemptions from these work requirements for *veterans, people experiencing homelessness, and former foster youth*.
- Significantly limits waivers for areas with poor economic conditions where finding a part-time job is difficult or impossible.
- Expands work requirement restrictions to adults aged 55 – 64.
- Expands work requirement restrictions to parents whose youngest child is at least 14 years old.

More than 5 million people (about 1 in 8 SNAP participants) live in a household that's at risk of losing at least some of their food assistance because someone in their household is subject to the significant expansion of SNAP's strict work requirements.

About 900,000 parents and other caregivers are at risk of losing SNAP benefits, putting roughly 800,000 children aged 14 to 17 who live with them at risk of receiving much less food assistance. [This will put nearly a million school-aged children at risk of hunger and food insecurity.](#)

Children who receive SNAP are automatically eligible for free school meals and summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) which pays for food using SNAP benefits. Many children would see cuts in these benefits from losing the automatic eligibility that comes from receiving SNAP.

Food Assistance Funding Changes – Starting in 2028

According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) this bill will dramatically raise costs and reduce food assistance for millions of people by cutting federal funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) by **\$186 billion (about 20%)** through 2034 - the largest cut to SNAP in history. These cuts would increase poverty, food insecurity, and hunger for low-income families.

This bill includes a major structural change that would cut billions in federal funding for states' basic food benefits, while requiring those states to backfill the money which was cut by the federal government!

The amount a state would owe depends on its combined payment error rate, which measures the over and under-payments its SNAP program makes in a year. Most of the errors are unintentional mistakes by state agencies or families, and most reflect the wrong amount of benefits going to households with low incomes that are eligible for benefits.

Based on this Error Rate formula, California's costs could be any of the following per year:

- 6% – 7.99% Error Rate = \$615 Million
- 8% – 9.99% Error Rate = \$1.23 Billion
- 10% or Higher Error Rate = \$1.84 Billion

If a state can't make up for these massive federal cuts with tax increases or spending cuts elsewhere in its budget, it would have to cut its SNAP program (by restricting eligibility or making it harder for people to enroll) or it could *opt out of the program altogether*, terminating food assistance entirely in the state.

Health Insurance Cuts

Medicaid (called Medi-Cal in California) provides free or low-cost healthcare for nearly 15 million Californians; over one-third (1/3) of the state's population.

How will this impact us in California?

- 2.4 million Californians will lose their healthcare.
- [Covered California health insurance will cost an average of **10.3% more in 2026.**](#)
- \$3,070 average increase in healthcare premiums for people covered under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in [California's 2nd Congressional District \(CA-02\).](#)
- 28 rural hospitals across California are at risk of shutting their doors.
- California could lose up to 217,000 jobs resulting from this loss of Medicaid funding.

ACA Enhanced Premium Tax Credits Expire – Ending December 31, 2025

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) Enhanced Premium Tax Credit is a federal subsidy that reduces the amount people pay for monthly health insurance premiums when they buy health insurance on the ACA Marketplace. Congress enacted these Enhanced Premium Tax Credit subsidies during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure people had health insurance. ACA enrollment nearly doubled nationwide from 12

million to 24 million people because of these subsidies. The Enhanced Premium Tax Credits are used by more than 90% of ACA enrollees nationwide.

Republicans did not renew the Enhanced Premium Tax Credits in their “One Big Beautiful Bill Act,” which are *scheduled to expire this year*.

If Congress doesn’t renew these Enhanced Premium Tax Credits soon, California will lose about \$2.1 billion in Enhanced Premium Tax Credits for current ACA enrollees.

Covered California estimates 600,000 Californians could drop coverage because of these lost subsidies and rising costs. That drop in enrollment will make healthcare rates even more expensive because younger and healthier people tend to sacrifice healthcare coverage when it becomes too costly, leaving people who are more frequently sick or disabled left to pay more for a diminishing level of care.

Medicaid (Medi-Cal) Work Requirements – Starting December 31, 2026

This bill will impose Work Requirements on recipients of Medicaid for the first time ever:

- People aged 19 to 64 must work at least 80 hours per month to be eligible for coverage, unless they qualify for an exemption for parents with dependent children under 14 years old or they have a qualifying medical condition.
- People who apply for Medicaid coverage need to meet work and other requirements for 1 or more consecutive months before they apply.

Eligibility redeterminations will be conducted at least twice per year to ensure enrollees still meet those requirements. Previously it was required once a year. This *increases the workload for County eligibility workers considerably*; many counties can’t keep up with the current workload & risk fines from the state.

People who are denied coverage or disenrolled because they do not meet these work requirements will be ineligible for subsidized marketplace coverage from the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Arkansas implemented Medicaid work requirements for residents in their state: more people became uninsured because of that policy, but there were no meaningful increases in employment from them. These work requirements won’t put more people to work; this is just a cruel way to remove healthcare benefits from people who need them to survive.

ACA Advanced Premium Tax Credit Changes – Starting December 31, 2027

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) Advanced Premium Tax Credit is a federal subsidy that reduces the amount people pay for monthly health insurance premiums when they buy health insurance on the ACA Marketplace.

93% of ACA enrollees received these tax credits in 2024.

This bill effectively eliminates automatic re-enrollment for most people; they will need to reapply every year. To keep this tax credit, they’ll need to provide information about their income, family size, immigration status, health coverage, and place of residence.

This is an unnecessary, extra burden for those with health insurance through the ACA marketplace.

Unintended Consequences: Healthcare Jobs In Demand, But Many Will Be Cut

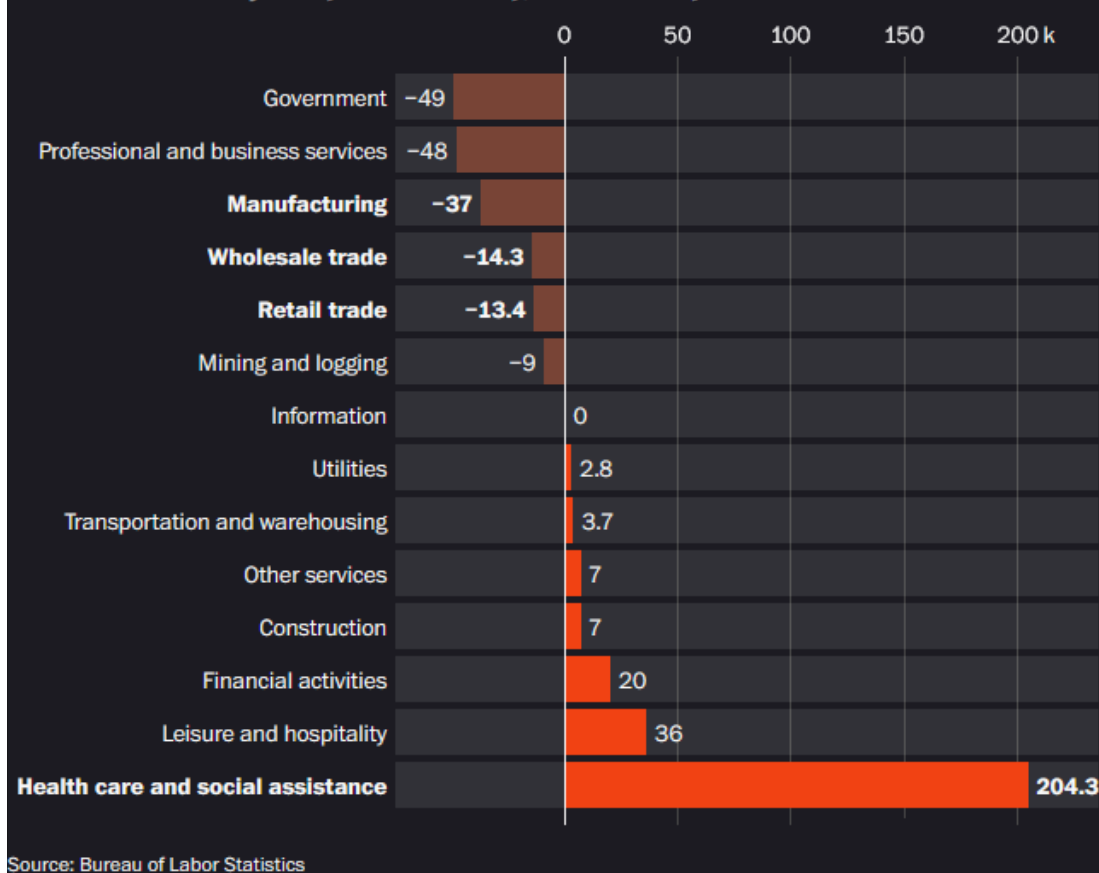
The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics released their [July 2025 Jobs Report](#): Non-farm job growth was slower than expected with just 73,000 new jobs created nationally in the month. That was 27,000 less than the Dow Jones estimated gain of 100,000 for July.

May and June new job totals were revised sharply lower, down by a combined 258,000 jobs from previously announced levels. The unemployment rate rose to 4.2%.

The bright spot in the jobs report was that healthcare and social assistance combined for about 94% of the job growth, accounting for about 204,300 new jobs from May through July.

The health care sector has seen the most job growth

Total new non-farm jobs by sector for May, June and July



Unfortunately, Republicans' upcoming funding cuts to Medicaid threaten to eliminate a substantial number of healthcare and social assistance jobs. California could lose up to 217,000 of these jobs.

The timing couldn't be worse. We should be increasing healthcare and social service hiring to address the "silver tsunami," an increasing number of older adults (led by the baby boomer generation) that will further strain our hospitals and need additional support as they age.

What Can We Do Now?

Right now, our communities, our rights, and our future are under attack.

If you believe in justice, dignity, and democracy, we're asking you to take a stand with us.

Take the Pledge

[Take the SEIU California Pledge](#) which provides 3 ways that you can get involved (check all that apply):

- **I pledge to protest injustice** – To show this country does not consent to cruelty.
- **I commit to win in 2026** – To vote, volunteer, and mobilize until we take back Congress and protect California.
- **I will help build the movement** – Because our power grows when we grow our union.

Join the Fight

Grab your coworker(s), family member(s), and/or friend(s) to attend the nearest **protest** on **Labor Day, September 1st**.

Let's rise together. Because if we don't, who will?

SEIU Member Benefits

[SEIU Member Benefits](#) is a money-saving benefit program *exclusively* for SEIU members!

As an SEIU Member, you work hard to improve yourself, your family and the communities you serve. You deserve something special too. We're proud to bring you an assortment of great benefits, at no cost or obligation, just for being an SEIU member!

See how the buying power of millions of SEIU members helps you:

- [Manage Your Finances](#): Get competitive rates on everything from credit cards to personal loans.
- [Protect Your Family](#): Benefit from group rates on a growing portfolio of insurance products.
- [Cut Your Cost of Living](#): Get special discounts at thousands of stores and favorite merchants.
- [Travel For Less](#): Enjoy specially negotiated rates and travel programs.
- [Affordable Education](#): Achieve your education goals while managing costs.

There's no cost or obligation, simply register on the website to get started saving money today.

Know Your Rights

The Right to Due Process During Questioning of your Citizenship

The United States' Constitution provides many of the same rights to *all workers*, documented or not.

Everyone should know what they can and need to do if they are ever in a position where their citizenship or immigration status is questioned.

Here are just a few immigration-related rights:

- You have a right to remain silent.
- You have a right to refuse to be searched.
- You have the right to call your country's consulate.
- You have the right to demand copies of your immigration papers.
- You have the right to speak to an attorney.

[SEIU released a video explaining these rights in further detail.](#)

The Right to Representation ("Weingarten Rights")

If you are called into an interview meeting with your supervisor or manager so they can investigate a situation which might result in discipline, you have specific representational rights:

1. You have the right to have a Union Steward and/or SEIU 1021 Field Representative (staff) present.
2. If you want a Steward / Field Representative there, ***you must ask for them.***
3. If you do not know why your manager wants to meet with you, ask them if the meeting could result in discipline.

This statement could save your job:

"If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, I respectfully request that my Steward / Field Representative be present at the meeting. Without representation present, I choose not to respond to any questions or statements."

4. If your manager refuses to allow you to bring a Steward / Field Representative, repeat your request in front of a witness. Do not refuse to attend the meeting, but do not answer any questions either. Take notes. Once

the meeting is over, call your Steward / Field Representative immediately.

5. You have the right to speak privately with your Steward / Field Representative before and during the meeting.
6. Your Steward / Field Representative has the right to play an active role in the meeting. They are not just witness.

These are called "**Weingarten Rights**" based on a 1975 Supreme Court decision (NLRB vs. J. Weingarten).

As with all rights, if we do not use them, we lose them.

Stewards' Corner

What Does a Union Steward Do?

Stewards are the face of the union at the worksite and are critical to building a strong, engaged and active membership. Stewards' roles and responsibilities include: ongoing training; welcome and orientation of new members; mobilize, educate, and inform members on union activities and other issues; resolve worksite issues; process grievances; provide timely and effective representation of the members; attend Steward Council meetings.

A steward is a trusted colleague that can answer questions and counsel fellow workers. You don't need an extensive knowledge of Union Practices or Fair Labor law. In fact, you can be the conduit to a more knowledgeable union member or Field Representative (union staff) that can help.

Having stewards in each building also keeps management more ethical. When management knows that there is fair representation in the workplace, they are less likely to take shortcuts when it comes to communication, scheduling or discipline.

"I have enjoyed being a steward and I always learn from each experience. At times it may require doing some research and that has always continued to inform me and be of better service to others."

~ Valerie Schlafke, Steward from Sonoma County's Community Development Commission

How Do I Become a Union Steward?

The process for becoming a Steward varies for each Chapter. Refer to your Chapter Bylaws for details.

However, there are 3 basic requirements to become a Union Steward:

1) Being a Union Member

You must be a dues-paying union member to become a Steward.

2) Attend Basic Steward Training

Here are the instructions to take the **Basic Steward Training** online through our SEIU 1021 Member Resource Center (MRC) website:

1. Find your **Union Member ID** by either:
 - a. Calling the Member Resource Center at [877-687-1021](tel:877-687-1021).
 - b. Contacting your [Field Representative](#).
2. Go to mrc.seiu1021.org and follow the self-registration process using your Union Member ID and the email address you have on file with the union. This will be the email address on record with Sonoma County.
3. Once logged into the portal:
 - a. In the top horizontal menu, click DIGITAL LEARNING
 - b. ONLINE LEARNING will appear in a drop-down: Click it.

4. Create an Account / Login

If you haven't created an account: Click CREATE AN ACCOUNT and follow the instructions.

If you have already created an account: Enter your login credentials.

5. This should automatically take you to the available COURSES online, which are found located under CATALOG in the vertical left-hand menu.

6. To take a course, find it and click the yellow START button at the bottom of the course panel. This will take you to the COURSE MATERIAL tab.

7. Click the title of the course and it will launch in a new window for you.

3) Submit a Union Steward Nomination Petition

Fill out the [SEIU LOCAL 1021 Union Steward Nomination Petition](#) form.

Fellow union members must sign your petition in support of you becoming their onsite Steward.

Once complete, send the form to your Chief Steward or Field Representative.

If you feel called to represent your fellow employees, complete the steps above to join our amazing Stewards!

SEIU 1021 Region B Information

If you have questions or need help, contact your Executive Board Officer or your assigned Field Representative anytime. *All communication is confidential.* We're here to help!

Executive Board Elected Leaders

Position	Name	Email	Phone
Vice President of Region B	Travis Balzarini	travis.balzarini@seiu1021.org	707-480-7961
Del Norte County Area Representative	{vacant}		
Marin County Area Representative	Mariette Shin	mariette.shin@seiu1021.org	
Mendocino County Area Representative	Jeff Weston	jeff.weston@seiu1021.org	
Sonoma County Area Representative	Sandy Sigala	sandy.sigala@seiu1021.org	
County Industry Council Representative	David Cameron	david.cameron@seiu1021.org	
Budget & Finance Committee	Steven DeSalvo	steven.desalvo@seiu1021.org	
Budget & Finance Committee	Amanda Hubbell	amanda.hubbell@seiu1021.org	

Field Staff

We have **6 Field Representatives** (union staff) assigned to our region:

Name	Primary Office	Phone	Email
Aaron Burton	Santa Rosa	707-234-9737	aaron.burton@seiu1021.org
Claudia Galliani	Novato	707-266-8425	claudia.galliani@seiu1021.org
Jana Blunt	Novato	707-478-6497	jana.blunt@seiu1021.org

Joel Evans-Fudem	Santa Rosa	707-380-5804	joel.evans-fudem@seiu1021.org
Kevin Arnold	Santa Rosa	510-761-4126	kevin.arnold@seiu1021.org
Patrick Hickey	Ukiah	707-386-8457	patrick.hickey@seiu1021.org
{vacant}			

The **Field Director** for our region is **Andrea Zanetti**: andrea.zanetti@seiu1021.org or [707-290-4888](tel:707-290-4888).

If you can't reach anyone listed above, please contact our **Member Resource Center** (MRC) at [877-687-1021](tel:877-687-1021).

Field Offices

Novato

[384 Bel Marin Keys Blvd](#)

[Suite 155](#)

[Novato, CA 94949](#)

Available by Appointment Only

Santa Rosa

[600 B St](#)

[Santa Rosa, CA 95401](#)

Phone: [707-293-2858](tel:707-293-2858)

Ukiah

[655 Kings Ct #100](#)

[Ukiah, CA 95482](#)

Phone: [707-376-2403](tel:707-376-2403)

Bylaws

[SEIU Local 1021 Bylaws](#): This is the official document that governs how our Local union is run.

Regional Newsletter Archive

Visit our [Newsletter Archive](#) to read newsletters from previous months.