

What is a Union?

In its basic form a union is simply a group of workers joining together so they can approach management as a group rather than as an individual. It is an organization which pursues policies and goals beneficial to one and all. Nothing more, nothing less. In other words, a union is you and your fellow workers, acting together to better your everyday working conditions.

A union is what gives the individual worker a voice in decisions and events that directly affect him or her in an undertaking that constitutes a major portion of life, that is, work.

A union allows workers a say in changing workplace conditions and solving workplace problems. With a union contract and grievance procedure to back them up, workers don't have to suffer in silence or feel that their only option to unacceptable conditions is to quit their jobs.

As a worker, you have a right under federal law to form a union, select representatives of your choice and bargain collectively with your employer. This helps balance the power that employers have over individual employees.

Belonging to a union gives you rights under law that you do not have as an individual. Once you have formed a union, your employer must bargain with you over your wages, hours and working conditions.

**The Union is All of Us,
Working Together for Each Other**