NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WORKER SAFETY AND HEALTH
The National Council for Occupational Safety and Health is a federation of local and statewide “COSH” groups—Committees/Coalitions on Occupational Safety and Health. COSH groups are private, non-profit coalitions of labor unions, worker centers, health and safety professionals, community-based organizations, and others interested in promoting and advocating for worker health and safety. COSH organizations around the U.S. are committed to promoting worker health and safety through training, organizing, and advocacy.

Leading the Fight for Safe and Healthy Workplaces!

www.coshnetwork.org
Our Conference Hashtag is #COSHCON19. Please use this for tweets and other social media post to share highlights from this week!
Day 1-3 General Agenda  
Expo and Poster Exhibit  
Labor Film and Safety Forum  
Workshop Session 1 – Issue Session Descriptions  
Workshop Session 2 Descriptions  
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DAY 1: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

8:00am-9:00am  Conference Registration will continue until 1pm

9:00am-10:30am  Opening Session  Program Overview  Speak Out!  Auditorium

10:30am-10:45am  BREAK

10:45am-12:00pm  Regional Meeting Breakouts

10:45am-12:00pm  Regional Meeting Breakouts

10:45am-12:00pm  Regional Meeting Breakouts

10:45am-12:00pm  Regional Meeting Breakouts

10:45am-12:00pm  Regional Meeting Breakouts

10:45am-12:00pm  Regional Meeting Breakouts

12:00pm-2:00pm  Lunch  Dining Hall

Keynote Speaker: Representative Andy Levin, US House of Representatives (MI-9)

2:00pm-2:45pm  Expo and Poster Exhibit, Networking Session 1  Registration Area

Watch hands-on presentations and take a spin on a wheel of fortune. Take a journey through the Expo area to learn, network and stamp your Passport to win prizes! Vote for your favorite Poster.

2:20pm-2:45pm  Self-Care Session 1  Room A302

Guided Relaxation

3:00pm-4:30pm  Workshop Session 1 - Issue Sessions

These sessions focus on current issues facing workers and the health, safety and environment movement and current organizing campaigns. The goal is to promote opportunities to collaborate locally and nationally on these efforts.

Health & Safety Protections for Temp and Gig Workers  Room A302
Defending the Health and Safety Rights of Immigrant Workers  Room A300
It’s Our Turn - Demanding Workplaces Free of Sexual Harassment and Violence  Classroom 2
Heat - Protecting Workers in a Climate-Changed World  Classroom 3
Engaging & Organizing Young Workers in Workplace Safety & Health  A303
Worker Health & Safety Rights at Work - a Union View. Room A304
Opioids and Work Injury: Getting to the Root of the Problem. Room A306
Injured Workers and Workers Comp Resources. Room A307
Workers’ Memorial Activities, Organizing and Mobilizing for Safer Workplaces. Room A111

4:45pm-6:00pm Meet Your OSHA Health and Safety Agency Representative Room A300

7:30pm Labor Health & Safety Film Forum Auditorium

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

7:00am-7:45am Self-Care Session 2 Room 2 North Tower, 2nd Floor, End of Hall
Gentle Yoga

8:00am-9:00am Conference Registration

8:30am-10:00am Welcome and Conference Overview Auditorium
Panel: Organizing to Action – Different Paths to Worker Power!
Moderated by Chris Schwartz, Blue Pencil Strategies
Panelists include:
- Rosa Lozano, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT)
- Zack Lerner, New York Communities for Change
- Lara Maldjian, New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (NYCOSH)
- Chris Pipa, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 32BJ

10:15am-12:00pm Workshop Session 2

1. Spanish Track: OSH Rights for Workers and Common Risks in the Workplace. Room A300
Facilitators: Juan Antonio Zuniga Ayala, United Steelworkers;
Alejandro Zuñiga, Fe y Justicia Worker Center

2. Combating Workplace Sexual Harassment: Creative Strategies for Culture Change. Classroom 2
Facilitators: Rossana Coto-Batres, Northeast NY Coalition for Occupational Safety & Health; Elizabeth Pellerito, Labor Education Program, University of Massachusetts Lowell; Aaron Polkey; Futures Without Violence
3. **Advanced Topics: Transforming Accident Investigation from Blame to Learning** .................................................. Room A302  
   **Facilitators:** Jim Howe, Safety Solutions; Bill Hoyle, US Chemical Safety Board-retired

4. **Chemical Hazards** .................................................. Room A303  
   **Facilitators:** Steve Schrag, SEIU; Kate Suisman, Northwest Workers’ Justice Project

5. **Complacency Kills: Climate Change & Worker Health and Safety** ........ Room A304  
   **Facilitators:** Debra Coyle, NJ Work Environment Council; Shanna Devine, Public Citizen; Jeffrey Pinson, USW/TMC

6. **Are Stress and Burnout the Future of Work in Healthcare?** ........ Room A306  
   **Facilitators:** Jane Thomason, National Nurses United; Maggie Robbins, Worksafe

7. **Creating Effective Health and Safety Committees** ...................... Room A307  
   **Facilitators:** Jim Schultz, WisCOSH; Nancy Lessin, Steelworkers Organization of Active Retirees

8. **Case Studies: Health and Safety in Organizing Campaigns** ............ Classroom 3  
   **Moderator:** Chris Schwartz, Blue Pencil Strategies  
   **Panelists:** Rosa Lozano, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT); Zack Lerner, New York Communities for Change; Chris Pipa, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 32BJ

9. **Integrating Health and Safety With Other Social and Economic Movements Impacting Workers.** ........................................ Room A111  
   **Facilitators:** Jora Trang, Worksafe; Nancy Zuniga, IDEPSCA

**12:00pm-2:00pm**  
**Lunch**  
**Dining Hall**  
**Keynote Speaker:** Elise Bryant, Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) National President

**2:00pm-2:45pm**  
**Expo and Poster Exhibit, Networking Session 2**  
**Registration Area**  
**Demo Day:** Take a deep dive! During this Expo session, spend time engaging in hands-on presentations, such as safe patient lifting and fall prevention.

**3:00pm-4:45pm**  
**Workshop Session 3**

1. **Spanish Track: Impacts of Opioids on Latinx/Immigrant Workers** ........ Room A300  
   **Facilitators:** Luzdary Giraldo, NYCOSH; Nancy Zuniga, IDEPSCA

2. **#MeToo At Work: Trauma-Informed Practices for an Empowered and Resilient Workplace** ........................................ .Classroom 2  
   **Facilitators:** Elizabeth Pellerito, Labor Education Program, University of Massachusetts Lowell; Sarah Gonzalez, Futures Without Violence
3. **Advanced Topic: The New View of Safety - An Alternative to Behavior-Based Safety**  
   **Facilitators:** Jim Howe, Safety Solutions; Bill Hoyle, US Chemical Safety Board - retired; Jim Frederick, Frederick Health & Safety Services, LLC

4. **Disaster Response Awareness Training - Tools You Can Use**  
   **Facilitators:** Luis Vazquez, ICWUC; Alice Berliner, SoCalCOSH; Rick Rabin, MassCOSH

5. **Opioids and Work: Resources for Building an Opioids Awareness Training Program**  
   **Facilitators:** Jodi Sugarman-Brozan, MassCOSH; Jonathan Rosen, National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety & Health Training; Rick Rinehart, CPWR

6. **Workplace Violence and Bullying in the Workplace**  
   **Facilitators:** Tolle Graham, MassCOSH - retired; Geraldine Stella, NYS Public Employees Federation

7. **Understanding and Using OSHA's Revised Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements**  
   **Facilitators:** Peg Seminario, AFL-CIO - retired; Rebecca L. Reindel, MS, MPH, AFL-CIO

8. **Health and Safety Lawsuits from Workplace Injuries and Illnesses - What are the options?**  
   **Facilitators:** Anne McGinness Kearse, Motley Rice, LLC; Rebecca Fonseca, Motley Rice LLC; Randy Rabinowitz, OSH Law Project

9. **Winning new Safety Rights on the State/Local Level: How to advance worker rights**  
   **Facilitators:** Debbie Berkowitz, National Employment Law Project; Pamela Vossenas, UNITE HERE International Union; Purva Grover, UNITE HERE IU; Mike Wilson, BlueGreen Alliance; Al Vega, MassCOSH

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6:30pm-9:30pm **Dinner and Awards Banquet: Music and Dancing!**

Dining Hall
DAY 3: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

7:00am-7:45am  
**Self-Care Session 3**  
Room 2 North Tower, 2nd Floor  
Gentle Yoga

8:30am-9:45am  
**Overview of the Day and Media Panel**  
Auditorium  
Panel moderated by Roger Kerson, National COSH  
Panelists:  
Gloria Gonzalez, Managing Editor for Energy and Environment, Industry Dive  
Alison Kodjak, Investigations Editor, Associated Press  
Michele Salcedo, News Desk Editor, Axios

10:00am-11:45am  
**Workshop Session 4**

1. Spanish Track: Organizing during times of climate disaster and the impact on the immigrant community.  
   Room A300  
   Facilitators: Milagros Barreto, MassCOSH; Luzdary Giraldo, NYCOSH; Jorge Martinez, Wind of the Spirit

   Classroom 2  
   Facilitators: Yasin Khan, UC Berkeley Labor Occupational Health Program; Cinthya Rodriguez, Centro de Trabajadores Unidos, UIC Great Lakes Center for Occupational Health & Safety; Ramya Sekaran, National Women’s Law Center

   Room A302  
   Facilitators: Jim Frederick, Frederick Health & Safety Services, LLC; Steven Sallman, United Steelworkers

4. Infectious Diseases in the Workplace.  
   Room A303  
   Facilitators: Jonathan Rosen, National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety & Health Training; Rick Rabin, MassCOSH

5. Deregulation Challenges & Strategies in Meatpacking Health and Safety.  
   Room A304  
   Moderator: Alex Galimberti, Oxfam America  
   Panelists: Schuyler Geery-Zink, Nebraska Appleseed; Matt McConnell, Human Rights Watch; Rachel Lyons, United Food and Commercial Workers International Union

   Room A306  
   Facilitators: Cecelia Gilligan Leto, Work Environment Council of New Jersey; Richard Engler, U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB)

7. Building the Blue-Green Movement: How does Worker Health and Safety Fit In?  
   Room A307  
   Facilitators: Mike Wilson, BlueGreen Alliance; Mike Wright, United Steelworkers
8. **Worker Leadership Development: How do We Develop Leaders Who Can Move Others “From Me to Us”** ............................................ Room A113  
**Facilitators:** Laura Stock, Labor Occupational Health Program; Lou Kimmel, New Labor; Martha Ojeda, Interfaith Worker Justice; Bridget Daley, SEIU

9. **Social Media Campaigns** ........................................... Classroom 3  
**Facilitator:** Nikki Pollo, USW/TMC

10. **When is Criminal Investigation for H&S Incidents the Right or Wrong Strategy?** .................................................... Room A111  
**Facilitators:** Katie Tracy, Center for Progressive Reform; Bill Hoyle, US Chemical Safety Board- retired

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**11:45am-2:00pm Lunch**  
**Dining Hall**  
**Panel: Grassroots Organizing, Mobilizing, and Taking Action!**  
**Moderated by** Jessica E. Martinez, National COSH  
**Panelists include:**  
- Al Vega, MassCOSH  
- Cinthya Rodriguez, Centro de Trabajadores Unidos: Immigrant Workers Project (CTU-IWP)  
- Lou Kimmel, New Labor

**2:00pm-2:45pm Closing Session**

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**EXPO AND POSTER EXHIBIT**

**Registration Area**

The COSHCON19 Expo is an exciting opportunity to engage in hands-on activities, lively discussions and rich learning and networking. The Expo has two specially dedicated sessions, immediately following the key-note speakers, on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Tuesday, meander through the Expo, engaging with the exhibitors and poster presenters, using the Passport in your packet as a guide. On Wednesday, take a deep dive - this Expo day will focus on hands-on presentations, such as safe-lifting and fall prevention.

Visit at least ten exhibit booths or posters - collecting stickers on your Passport at each stop to win a prize. Stop off at the National COSH Network booth to pick up your prize and vote for your favorite poster. Your vote determines which poster exhibitors win one of three prizes!
Join us for previews of important new films about workplace safety. We’ll show short excerpts from four films, followed by a discussion with filmmaker Dave DeSario. The program includes:

**Excerpt: “Coal’s deadly dust,”**
*Produced by Elaine McMillion Sheldon and Howard Berkes.*

Investigates the return of severe black lung disease among coal miners, and the failure to respond. This joint investigation by Frontline and NPR reveals the biggest disease clusters ever documented, and how the industry and the government failed to protect miners.

**Excerpt: “Building the American Dream,”**
*Directed by Chelsea Hernandez*

Captures the dirty secret behind an unstoppable construction boom in Texas: Abuse of immigrant labor. Features the Granillo family, honored at COSHCON 2016, and their fight for a heat stress ordinance in Dallas following the death of Roendy Granillo.

**Trailer: “Silo,”**
*Directed by Marshall Burnette, produced by Samuel Goldberg and Ilan Ulmer*

Inspired by true events, SILO follows a harrowing day in an American farm town. Disaster strikes when teenager Cody Rose is entrapped in a 50-foot-tall grain bin. Neighbors and first responders must put aside their differences to rescue Cody from drowning in the crop that has sustained their community for generations.

**Excerpt: “Town of Widows”**
*Produced by Natasha Luckhardt; Associate Producer - Dave DeSario*

Nicknamed “The Electric City,” Peterborough, Ont., was home to a General Electric plant for over a century. Over time, employees of the plant and their families noticed more and more GE workers dying from cancer. Now, they’re fighting for compensation and finding a “conspiracy of silence.”

Film excerpts will be followed by Q and A with Dave DeSario, associate producer of “Town of Widows” and producer/director of “A Day’s Work,” an award-winning film about the hazards of temp work. “A Day’s Work” screened at COSHCON15, where Natasha Luckhardt got the inspiration to create a film about workers at Peterborough.
WORKSHOP SESSION 1 (ISSUE SESSIONS)

1. Health & Safety Protections for Temp and Gig Workers — Room A302
Facilitators: Chris Schwartz, Blue Pencil Strategies; Al Vega, MassCOSH
The use of temporary workers is at an all-time high—at least 3.1 million workers work a temporary job on any given day. Over the course of a year, 16.8 million people are employed in a temp job at some point. That’s more than one out of every 10 working people. The explosion of temporary work poses huge challenges for protecting workers’ health and safety. Join with others who are concerned about this issue to discuss ways we can reach temporary workers with important safety information, document the scope of the problem, and develop an action agenda.

2. Defending the Health and Safety Rights of Immigrant Workers — Room A300
Facilitators: Marianela Acuña Arreaza, National COSH; Martha Ojeda, Interfaith Worker Justice; Emily Tulli, OSH Law Project
All workers have a legal and human right to a safe workplace. In reality, we know that workers face different levels of hazardous environments based on their position in society, whether it be racial, class or status. Immigrant workers face a perfect storm of hazardous workplace situations. Some factors include:
- Assigned to some of the most dangerous work environments;
- Language barriers;
- Compromised ability to challenge hazardous situations for fear of retaliation;
- Racial discrimination; and
- Lack of training related to safety & health protections.

These are just some of the many aspects that put immigrant workers at extremely high risk for serious injury and illness from work exposures. These issues will be discussed to develop strategies for our collective response to challenge these threats and defend all workers from job hazards.

3. It’s Our Turn—Demanding Workplaces Free of Sexual Harassment and Violence — Classroom 2
Facilitators: Rossana Coto-Batres, Northeast NY Coalition for Occupational Safety & Health; Ana Romero, Chicago Workers Collaborative; KC Wagner, The Worker Institute at Cornell ILR
Two years ago at this conference, worker safety and health advocates joined the movement to end gender violence in workplaces and communities. Exploring the various victories milestones in the fight for safer workplaces and ending sexual harassment, participants will share their experience as activists, leaders, and worker advocates who are fighting for workplaces free of gender discrimination and sexual violence. Utilizing an intersectional approach, we will identify key legal, policy, workplace, union, and community organizing strategies and understand how this movement fits into the larger social and labor movement.

4. Heat - Protecting Workers in a Climate-Changed World/Calor — Classroom 3
Facilitators: Debra Coyle, NJ Work Environment Council; Shanna Devine, Public Citizen
The world’s climate is changing. Every year since 1997 has been warmer than average in the United States. July 2019 was the hottest month recorded in earth’s history! With the climate crisis causing more extreme temperature fluctuations throughout the year, employees who work in outdoor environments or indoors with no efficient temperature control are at risk for temperature related illness and injury.

5. Engaging & Organizing Young Workers in Workplace Safety & Health — A303
Facilitators: Tom Joyce, Mid-state COSH; Liam Lynch, NYCOSH
Last year a dozen union trainers, health and safety educators and local union reps shared their experience with motivating young workers. We looked at how our organizations try to engage
young workers in safety and health in creative and effective ways. We identified strategies for furthering this engagement. And we came up with three ways to work together and collaborate. This year Tom Joyce and Liam Lynch, Council for Occupational Safety and Health (COSH) trainers, will share their experience with the Teens Lead @ Work program of peer leaders training their young colleagues who are just beginning their working lives. We will be leading the group in one of the interactive exercises that our peer leaders use. We guarantee that a fun time will be had by all, with a prize to the winning team in the exercise. We would like to hear about your work with youth, continue out strategizing and also see if we have furthered our collaboration goals from last year. Join us. All ages welcome!

6. Worker Health & Safety Rights at Work: A Union View — Room A304
Facilitators: Juan Antonio Zuniga Ayala, United Steelworkers; Nancy Lessin, Steelworkers Organization of Active Retirees; Michelle Jamison, PhilaPOSH
Workers and their unions face a variety of challenges to their rights at work. This workshop will focus on several real workplace scenarios where understanding and exercising your rights will help to build a stronger union in the workplace. Participants will engage with each other to discuss these scenarios, discuss solutions and identify available resources.

7. Opioids and Work Injury: Getting to the Root of the Problem — Room A306
Facilitators: Jodi Sugarman-Brozan, MassCOSH; Jonathan Rosen, National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety & Health Training; Alice Berliner, SoCalCOSH
There is a clear link between workplace injury and stress, resulting in physical and emotional pain and opioid use and overdose. In Massachusetts, accidental overdose was the leading cause of workplace fatalities in 2016 and 2017, making up one-quarter of all such deaths. In this Issues Session, participants will not only learn more about this link, but will also explore worker-focused strategies to prevent opioid disorder and overdose that utilize a public health model of prevention. These include worker training programs focused on opioid awareness and injury prevention, empowered decision-making regarding pain management, and the availability of recovery services.

8. Injured Workers and Workers Comp Resources — Room A307
Facilitators: Milagros Barreto, MassCOSH; Steve Schrag, SEIU
Emphasizes strategies for mobilizing our members, building worker power and strengthening our movement for Injured Workers in the Workers Compensation system.

9. Workers’ Memorial Activities, Organizing and Mobilizing for Safer Workplaces — Room A111
Facilitators: Tonya Ford, USMWF; Steven Sallman, United Steelworkers
Workers’ Memorial Day [April 28] is a time to honor, remember and recognize the workers killed, injured or made ill on the job. It is an important opportunity to use these tragic stories to highlight the importance of workplace safety and the need for increased worker protections to the public and community. Workers’ Memorial events and reports are becoming more common in cities, towns and counties across the country and the world. Join us to discuss the organizations that help plan these events, fight for safer workplaces and explore what needs to happen next on how we can work together in making this happen.
WORKSHOP SESSION 2

1. Spanish Track: OSH Rights for Workers and Common Risks in the Workplace – Room A300
   Facilitators: Juan Antonio Zuniga Ayala, United Steelworkers; Alejandro Zuñiga, Fe y Justicia Worker Center

   This workshop, aimed at people who want to learn or continue learning to identify the different hazards in the work areas of health and safety in the workplace, covers basic rights under OSHA and under federal law.

2. Combating Workplace Sexual Harassment: Creative Strategies for Culture Change – Classroom 2
   Facilitators: Rossana Coto-Batres, Northeast NY Coalition for Occupational Safety & Health; Elizabeth Pellerito, Labor Education Program, University of Massachusetts Lowell; Aaron Polkey; Futures Without Violence

   In this interactive workshop, participants will create a ‘continuum of behavior’ that outlines the various power dynamics that underlie gender discrimination and harassment in the workplace. Using case studies and examples, participants will identify sexual harassment and the different types of behaviors that constitute harassment. From there, participants will have the opportunity to identify where their organization/union/worker center is in terms of addressing various violent and harassing behaviors in the workplace. Participants will walk away with the tools needed to identify harassment, assess their workplace, and identify actionable strategies to eliminate sexual harassment and violence.

3. Advanced Topics: Transforming Accident Investigation from Blame to Learning – Room A302
   Facilitators: Jim Howe, Safety Solutions; Bill Hoyle, US Chemical Safety Board- retired

   How can we move from the blame-shame-retrain accident investigation approach to something much more positive? Accident investigation processes that look for someone to blame and result in finding causes like “employee carelessness”, “employee’s eyes not on task”, “failure to follow procedure” make the workplace more dangerous. A new learning approach is needed that takes advantage of the unique knowledge of workers doing the job. Workers can help us understand the context of an incident, including how work is actually done, as well as operational deficiencies, such as insufficient staffing, proper equipment not being available, process variability, excessive production pressure, etc. that influenced events. By improving our understanding of operational issues and controlling hindsight bias, real and lasting improvements can be made.

4. Chemical Hazards – Room A303
   Facilitators: Steve Schrag, SEIU; Kate Suisman, Northwest Workers’ Justice Project

   This workshop will explore the types of chemical hazards to which workers are exposed as well as basic OSHA and NIOSH guidelines regarding chemicals. We will also discuss hazard communication and other tools used in trainings with non-English speaking workers, as well as legal protections against retaliation for reporting OSH violations.

5. Complacency Kills: Climate Change & Worker Health and Safety – Room A304
   Facilitators: Debra Coyle, NJ Work Environment Council; Shanna Devine, Public Citizen; Jeffrey Pinson, USW/TMC

   The climate crisis is putting workers at risk. Extreme temperature and weather events, air pollution, and environmental disease carriers due to global warming are just some of the contributors to a rise in worker injuries, illnesses and fatalities, and impacting mental health.

   Learn how labor and environmental groups are forging lasting alliances through a united response to these threats. This session will focus primarily on
national and state campaigns to protect outdoor and indoor workers from heat—the leading weather-related killer in the U.S. It will discuss organizing best practices led by coalitions of unions, worker centers, worker and environmental advocacy organizations, public health experts and other allies. It will also include a robust engagement session for participants to share lessons learned on these and other dimensions of climate change and challenges to sustainability affecting worker health and safety.

6. Are Stress and Burnout the Future of Work in Healthcare? — Room A306

Facilitators: Jane Thomason, National Nurses United; Maggie Robbins, Worksafe

Work-related stress is a critical and intensifying issue that puts healthcare workers and their patients at risk. Together in this workshop, we will consider common sources of stress for healthcare workers, scrutinize interventions proposed by industry, and examine avenues to powerful solutions that can be won by workers. This workshop will be a dynamic investigation into one of the most acute issues in healthcare today. We encourage everyone who has an interest in safe healthcare to attend—healthcare workers, union staff, and patients alike.

7. Creating Effective Health and Safety Committees — Room A307

Facilitators: Jim Schultz, WisCOSH; Nancy Lessin, Steelworkers Organization of Active Retirees

It’s tough to have a workplace health and safety committee that can make major inroads into tough, long-standing dangers to worker safety and health. This participatory workshop (no PowerPoint!) is designed to help increase the effectiveness of these committees to do just that. The context in which these committees operate will be explored, committee structures and functions will be discussed, strategies for increasing their effectiveness will be developed, and the importance of having a worker/union-only safety committee as well as a labor-management safety committee will be underscored.

8. Case Studies: Health and Safety in Organizing Campaigns — Classroom 3

Moderator: Chris Schwartz, Blue Pencil Strategies

Panelists: Rosa Lozano, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT); Zack Lerner, New York Communities for Change; Chris Pipa, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 32BJ

Go in-depth on the campaigns featured in the Organizing to Action plenary sessions, learning in more detail how campaigns incorporated health and safety into efforts to build power for non-union workers. Presenters will share more about the history of each campaign, the specific role that health and safety has played in moving workers to action, and how they have overcome challenges.

9. Integrating Health and Safety With Other Social and Economic Movements Impacting Workers — Room A111

Facilitators: Jora Trang, Worksafe; Nancy Zuniga, IDEPSCA

This workshop focuses on the intersections of health and safety with social and economic movements with low-wage workers of color. We will look at regional specificities and common struggles amongst workers in California’s wildfires, janitors, temporary workers, warehouse workers, day laborers and domestic workers, highlighting the impact of racism, discrimination, social isolation and immigration status on workers’ health and safety. We will share strategies, as well as discuss how we can create regional and more intentional solidarity across industries and communities.
1. Spanish Track: Impacts of Opioids on Latinx/Immigrant Workers — Room A300
Facilitators: Luzdary Giraldo, NYCOSH; Nancy Zuniga, IDEPSCA

According to the Centers for Disease Control, 1 out of every 4 people prescribed opioids for chronic pain will become addicted. The occupations with the highest injury rates have a greater risk of unwittingly becoming silent victims of opioid addiction. Latino workers run an even greater risk, because they are afraid of speaking out due to their immigration status or of losing their job, lack proper training, and do not know their labor rights, as well as a learned culture of sharing medications and of self-medication. In this workshop: (1) We will understand the relationship between workplace injuries and opioid abuse, and how to identify risks in the workplace in order to prevent injury (2) Discuss the symptoms of someone becoming opioid-dependent, and talk about holistic and health alternatives for effective treatment. We will also talk about approved medical interventions to save the life of a worker showing signs of overdose. 3) We will talk about the basic rights of immigrant workers, and how to exercise those rights.

2. #MeToo At Work: Trauma-Informed Practices for an Empowered and Resilient Workplace — Classroom 2
Facilitators: Elizabeth Pellerito, Labor Education Program, University of Massachusetts Lowell; Sarah Gonzalez, Futures Without Violence

Gender-based violence and trauma that results from abuse can be significant obstacles to one’s ability to obtain and maintain employment. While abusive partners and harassers often use gaps in workplace protections and practices to further harm survivors, the workplace - and the union - can be protective spaces that provide safety and support to survivors and hold perpetrators accountable for their behavior. This workshop will explore what trauma is, how it impacts workers and workplaces, and how unions and worker centers can implement trauma-informed principles to further their efforts to promote safety, respect, and workers rights.

Facilitators: Jim Howe, Safety Solutions; Bill Hoyle, US Chemical Safety Board- retired; Jim Frederick, Frederick Health & Safety Services, LLC

For decades workers and unions struggled with health and safety programs that were based on the premise that most workplace injuries result from the unsafe acts of workers. These programs were sometimes characterized as blame, shame and retrain programs. Recently, some health and safety practitioners have shifted to a philosophy that recognizes that workers understand their work better than anyone else and that by harnessing that knowledge safety conditions and overall operations can be improved.

4. Disaster Response Awareness Training—Tools You Can Use — Room A303
Facilitators: Luis Vazquez, ICWUC; Alice Berliner, SoCalCOSH; Rick Rabin, MassCOSH

National COSH, funded by a partnership with ICWUC, has developed community and worker trainers to conduct training which improves communities and workplaces through conducting disaster preparedness and recovery training. Community and worker trainers are identified, prepared, and trained with practice modules well in advance of disasters and severe weather events. Lessons learned about what disaster response awareness training is useful and what is critical in the phases of response will be described. This includes information resources used such as NIEHS health and safety booklets (available in multiple languages), training exercises on a variety of disaster response activities (ie., mucking and
gutting, mold remediation, and disaster resiliency), using adult education techniques to building training skills. Limitations and hazards of disaster response will be described.

Additional info: Alice Berliner, SoCalCOSH, will describe recent wildfires in California. Rick Rabin, MassCOSH, will describe bilingual small group activities used to educate workers and community members in response to hurricane and flooding disasters.

5. Opioids and Work: Resources for Building an Opioids Awareness Training Program – Room A304
Facilitators: Jodi Sugarman-Brozan, MassCOSH; Jonathan Rosen, National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety & Health Training; Rick Rinehart; CPWR

There is a clear link between workplace injury and stress, resulting in physical and emotional pain and opioid use and overdose. In Massachusetts, accidental overdose was the leading cause of workplace fatalities in 2016 and 2017, making up one-quarter of all such deaths. In this workshop you will hear from three organizations at the frontlines of the epidemic (CPWR, MassCOSH and NIEHS) who have worked over the last year to develop outreach materials and build worker training programs that address this crisis. The goal of the workshop is to provide participants with the resources they need to build opioid awareness training programs in their own organization or union.

6. Workplace Violence and Bullying in the Workplace – Room A306
Facilitators: Tolle Graham, MassCOSH - retired; Geraldine Stella, NYS Public Employees Federation

What is Workplace Violence? What is Workplace Bullying? What can be done about them? Workers, especially those who work with the public, may be at increased risk for workplace violence, and poor management practices may ignore or encourage workplace bullying. The traditional approach to violence has been to focus on individuals and isolated events, providing personal safety training or implementing zero tolerance policies. And employers, union reps, and co-workers are often reluctant to confront bullying in the workplace. In this highly interactive training program, we will explore the, risk factors, causes, impacts, and strategies to better address workplace violence and workplace bullying.

7. Understanding and Using OSHA’s Revised Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements – Room A307
Facilitators: Peg Seminario, AFL-CIO - retired; Rebecca L. Reindel, MS, MPH, AFL-CIO

Over the past few years, OSHA has revised its recordkeeping requirements to require better tracking of occupational injuries and illnesses in order to prevent them. This workshop provides the tools workers and their representatives need to make sure that injuries and illnesses are recorded and reported to OSHA. There will be an interactive activity to put these tools to use. Join us to learn how to use these important requirements across industries.

8. Health and Safety Lawsuits from Workplace Injuries and Illnesses – What are the options? – Room A111
Facilitators: Anne McGinness Kearse, Motley Rice, LLC; Rebecca Fonseca, Motley Rice LLC; Randy Rabinowitz, OSH Law Project

When workers are harmed on the job, often only workers’ compensation claims against the employer are considered. However, the manufacturers or installers of equipment, the sellers of toxic materials, businesses that put an employee unnecessarily at risk, and others could also be responsible and held accountable through civil litigation for harm inflicted to workers. The panel will discuss legal remedies and compensation that exists beyond workers’ comp. These legal actions also can hold negligent corporations and employers accountable...
and add safeguards and changes to existing laws and policies that enhance the protections available to current and future workers. Monetary awards to injured workers or families of workers are much more significant than workers compensation. Come learn about helping your co-workers understand legal options!

9. Winning new Safety Rights on the State/Local Level: How to advance worker rights — Classroom 3
Facilitators: Debbie Berkowitz, National Employment Law Project; Pamela Vossenas, UNITE HERE International Union; Purva Grover, UNITE HERE IU; Mike Wilson, BlueGreen Alliance; Al Vega, MassCOSH

This workshop will introduce participants to models of new successful state and city wide policy initiatives that build worker power and advance worker health and safety rights. Learn about new Cal OSHA standards to protect hotel housekeepers, new process safety management standards, and new city wide initiatives in Boston and Seattle that protect hotel and construction workers. The discussion will include how coalitions succeeded in driving change; the importance of placing worker rights provisions in these new initiatives; and once a new law/reg is won, how you can meet the challenges of putting the law into practice and impacting workers’ lives on a daily basis.

WORKSHOP SESSION 4

1. Spanish Track: Organizing during times of climate disaster and the impact on the immigrant community — Room A300
Facilitators: Milagros Barreto, MassCOSH; Luzdary Giraldo, NYCOSH; Jorge Martinez, Wind of the Spirit

In this workshop, we will talk about the importance of climate resilience and how to organize in our communities and workplaces to ensure that workers are sufficiently trained, receive proper protective equipment, and do not become victims of wage theft and other labor rights violations.

2. Applying Trauma-Informed, Collective Action Strategies to End Sexual Harassment in the Workplace — Classroom 2
Facilitators: Yasin Khan, UC Berkeley Labor Occupational Health Program; Cinthya Rodriguez, Centro de Trabajadores Unidos, UI Great Lakes Center for Occupational Health & Safety; Ramya Sekaran, National Women’s Law Center

In this workshop participants will build their knowledge and gain tools to apply trauma informed, collective action strategies to ending sexual harassment in the workplace. Participants will analyze a real-life case study and work in small groups to create their own trauma informed campaign to demand a workplace free of sexual harassment.

3. Advanced Topics: HS Contract Language and Collective Bargaining — Room A302
Facilitators: Jim Frederick, Frederick Health & Safety Services, LLC; Steven Sallman, United Steelworkers

Workplace health and safety gains are made through many different efforts. One way to achieve improvements is by establishing a health and safety structure in the collective bargaining agreement. Participants in this workshop will review successes, discuss strategies and receive sample model contract language on health and safety.
4. Infectious Diseases in the Workplace — Room A303

Facilitators: Jonathan Rosen, National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety & Health Training; Rick Rabin, MassCOSH

Exposure to Infectious diseases presents a serious risk to workers across a number of occupations and industries including healthcare, emergency services, law enforcement, environmental cleaning, maintenance, sanitation, laboratories, and many others. Recognizing the presence of these harmful agents and developing protection programs is key. In this workshop participants will list the infectious agents they are concerned with in their workplace and use available resources to learn about key characteristics such as mode of transmission, incubation period, symptoms, and protective measures. Use of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Pathogen Safety Data Guide and related resources will be shared.

5. Deregulation Challenges & Strategies in Meatpacking Health and Safety — Room A304

Moderator: Alex Galimberti, Oxfam America
Panelists: Schuyler Geery-Zink, Nebraska Appleseed; Matt McConnell, Human Rights Watch; Rachel Lyons, United Food and Commercial Workers International Union

Workers in the meat and poultry industries are facing increased risks due to deregulation and lax oversight of health and safety in slaughterhouses and processing plants. In this panel we will hear from advocates tackling this issue from different approaches that include direct engagement with workers and their communities; policy advocacy at the governmental agency level; and public awareness campaigning. Join us to learn about how these examples from the meatpacking and poultry sectors are relevant for workers in all industries.

6. Workplace Chemicals, Recognizing Hazardous Conditions — Room A306

Facilitators: Cecelia Gilligan Leto, Work Environment Council of New Jersey; Richard Engler, U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB)

Proactive Systems of Safety are the key to preventing disasters and injuries. Unexpected releases of hazardous toxic, reactive, or flammable chemicals create the possibility of a disaster for workers, employers, and communities.


Facilitators: Mike Wilson, BlueGreen Alliance; Mike Wright, United Steelworkers

Air and water pollution, toxic chemical releases – the workplace obviously affects the environment. Catastrophic fires in the west, extreme weather events, heat-related illness – the environment, particularly climate change, obviously affects the safety of workers. Environmental protection and worker safety are two parts of the same struggle. But how can COSH groups, unions and environmental groups work together effectively? How do we prevent our common adversaries from splitting us apart? The workshop will explore these questions with examples from past and current events, like the formation of the Blue-Green Alliance, the recent successful fight for an advanced petroleum refinery process safety management regulation in California, and struggles drawn from the experience of workshop participants.

8. Worker Leadership Development: How do We Develop Leaders Who Can Move Others “From Me to Us” — Room A113

Facilitators: Laura Stock, Labor Occupational Health Program; Lou Kimmel, New Labor; Martha Ojeda, Interfaith Worker Justice; Bridget Daley, SEIU

Effective health and safety organizing requires strong worker leaders, folks who can analyze
problems, come up with effective solutions and motivate and inspire others to take action. In this workshop, we’ll be discussing what it means to be a leader and what is needed to support and encourage leadership development. We will be sharing approaches and experiences that highlight challenges, successes and best practices.

9. Social Media Campaigns — Classroom 3
Facilitator: Nikki Pollo, USW/TMC
This workshop will focus on the use of social media to build positive and effective campaigns to build solidarity and strengthen the labor movement. Participants will review basic social media trends, see examples of successful campaigns and work together to create ideas for a campaign.

10. When is Criminal Investigation for H&S Incidents the Right or Wrong Strategy? — Room A111
Facilitators: Katie Tracy, Center for Progressive Reform; Bill Hoyle, US Chemical Safety Board- retired
When to call [or not?] for Criminal Investigation for H&S disasters? There is a wide range of opinions on this tactic in workplace health and safety advocacy. On one hand, Calling for a criminal investigation and possible prosecution for workplace health and safety issues can be a very effective way to call attention to the crisis in work related fatalities and deter future violators. For all of us, the lack of substantial consequences to employer lapses in health and safety that result in serious injury, illness and death is frustrating and unjust. To make an example in some special situations can be an effective strategy to get attention to our mission of preventing injury and illness in the first place and sending a message that unsafe workplaces will not be tolerated.

On the other hand, Criminal investigation requests can have drawbacks also. This includes possibly creating a situation that criminalizes individuals [including workers] and focusing deterrents away from the company or corporations that often make decisions that lead to these tragic situations. In our toolbox of possible strategies to organize around workplace health and safety, there are many ways to get attention to specific incidents, including stronger agency enforcement, worker power organizing campaigns, media attention and stronger H&S policy to mention a few.

Come be a part of this discussion to fine tune your strategic options in how to respond to serious tragedies that occur every day to workers, their families and the community.
Representative Andy Levin, US House of Representatives (MI-9)

Tuesday, Dec 3 12pm-2pm - Lunch - Dining Hall

A union organizer, human rights activist, workforce policy expert and green energy entrepreneur, Congressman Andy Levin has spent his career fighting for an equitable and inclusive future for all people. He’s bringing that fight to Congress as the proud representative for Michigan’s 9th District.

Andy has been advocating for working families since the 1980s, when he organized hundreds of health care workers for the Service Employees International Union (SEIU). After working with Haitian immigrant workers, Andy co-founded an organization to assist immigrants with challenges posed by the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

Continuing his work to strengthen organized labor, Andy worked in Washington, D.C. as a staff attorney to the presidential Commission on the Future of Worker-Management Relations and also in the secretary’s office of the U.S. Department of Labor. Andy worked with unions and employers on legislation critical for workers’ rights including the National Labor Relations Act, the proposed TEAM Act, the Federal Transit’s Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act.

From 1995-2006, Andy served as Assistant Director of Organizing at the national AFL-CIO, where he created and ran Union Summer, helped many unions with collaborative organizing campaigns around the country, and created and led the Voice@Work Campaign, which organized the national movement to pass the Employee Free Choice Act.

Andy took his advocacy work to the Michigan state government, where he created and ran the state’s No Work Left Behind initiative that helped more than 160,000 unemployed and underemployed Michiganders go back to school during the Great Recession. On a mission to unite sustainability and workforce development, Andy also helped create Michigan’s Green Jobs Initiative in 2008 and the Green Jobs Report in 2009. Andy went on to create the Michigan Academy for Green Mobility Alliance (MAGMA), which trained hundreds of unemployed and incumbent engineers to electrify cars.

In 2011, Andy founded Levin Energy Partners LLC as an entrepreneurial force to help shape Michigan’s and America’s energy future. Andy created and ran a statewide market to finance clean energy building improvements called Lean & Green Michigan, which has become one of the most innovative Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs in the US. In 2018, Andy’s program helped a wide variety of building owners initiate $17,900,000 in clean energy projects.

Andy has worked on human rights for decades, including doing legal work for asylum seekers in the US and investigating and reporting on human rights abuses in Haiti, China and Tibet.
Born in Detroit and raised in Berkley, MI, Andy is an honors graduate of Williams College and Harvard Law School and holds a Masters Degree from the University of Michigan in Asian Languages and Cultures, where he was a Mellon Fellow in the Humanities.

Andy has long been active in the spiritual and social justice life of the Jewish community. Until his election to Congress, he served as president of a Reconstructionist Jewish synagogue, Congregation T’chiyah, and as chair of the steering committee of Detroit Jews for Justice, an organization he helped create to fight for racial and economic justice in Detroit.

Andy married his high school sweetheart Mary Freeman in 1991. They have four children — Koby, Saul, Ben, and Molly — and live in Bloomfield Township.

Andy learned and worked in Haitian Creole and Tibetan and also studied French, Sanskrit, and Hindi. He remains an avid ice hockey player and enjoys yoga, mountain biking, canoeing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and other wilderness adventures.

Elise Bryant, President, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Wednesday, Dec 4 12pm-2pm - Lunch - Dining Hall

Elise joined CWA/TNG Local 32035 in 1998 and served as the bargaining unit chair at the National Labor College for eight years. She currently serves on the Guild’s executive board as a member-at-large. Elise is a lifetime member of the Wobblies (Industrial Workers of the World) as well as AFM Local 1000. In 2012 she was given the Lifetime Achievement award from the international organization, United Association of Labor Educators. She was presented with the Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild’s prestigious Front Page Award for community service in 2015.

After working 35 years as a labor educator, Elise retired from her professorship at the National Labor College to start her own consulting service, the E.L.I.S.E. Consortium and also to serve as the Executive Director of the Labor Heritage Foundation. Her areas of expertise include Communication Skills, Effective Committee Training, Leadership Training, Teaching Techniques, Labor History and Culture, Diversity Training, Organization Development and “Arts as a Tool for Organizing”.
Moderator: Chris Schwartz, Blue Pencil Strategies

Chris Schwartz has worked on union organizing campaigns as a strategic researcher and organizer for 17 years. He started at the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) working on campaigns to organize janitors, security officers, and food service workers. Until recently he was an Assistant Organizing Director at the United Auto Workers (UAW), where he worked mainly on campaigns to organize workers in the auto parts sector, which today employs three out of every four auto workers. In September 2018, he founded Blue Pencil Strategies, a small firm to help unions, worker centers, community-labor coalitions, and environmental groups build their strategic campaign capacity.

Rosa Lozano, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT)

Rosa Lozano is a first-generation Salvadoran immigrant from Washington, DC. Rosa currently serves as a National Lead Strategic Organizer and Assistant to the General President of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) where the focus of her work has been leading strategic campaigns in the South to raise the floor in the construction industry and improve conditions for all workers. Previously, Rosa was a local organizer at UFCW Local 400, where she worked to unionize low-wage grocery store workers to improve wages and working conditions for Latino and African immigrant workers. As the National Worker Center Partnership Coordinator at the AFL-CIO her work focused on coalition building between worker centers and labor unions to fight for the rights of all working people. As a community organizer at CASA de Maryland she engaged and mobilized directly impacted communities to pass the Maryland Dream Act, which granted students access to higher education at in-state tuition rates regardless of immigration status.
Zachary Lerner, New York Communities for Change

Zachary Lerner has directed campaigns ranging from education to housing to labor for New York Communities for Change since 2012. Under Zack’s increasing levels of responsibility and leadership, NYCC has seen growth, expansion, and development of its workers’ committees and neighborhood chapters fighting for workers’ rights. In 2019, Zack played a key strategic role in overseeing the successful No Amazon NYC campaign to block Amazon from building its second headquarters in Long Island City, Queens and has been involved in warehouse worker organizing.

Lara Maldjian, NYCOSH

Lara Maldjian is Associate Director at NYCOSH. As AD, she directs the safety and health training unit and oversees programmatic activity.

Prior to NYCOSH, Lara spent nearly six years at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH) and prior to joining NYCOSH, she served as the Overdose Education and Naloxone Manager in the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Use Prevention, Care and Treatment. In this role, Lara’s mission was to protect and promote the health of New Yorkers who use drugs. She managed a collaborative and motivated team while overseeing an unprecedented expansion of the City’s naloxone distribution program; under her leadership, the number of naloxone kits distributed over the course of three years grew from 15,000 annually to over 100,000 annually.

Lara has her M.P.H. from Columbia University, Mailman School of Public Health and her B.A. in Gender and Women’s Studies from the University of California, Berkeley.

Chris Pipa, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 32BJ

Chris has worked at 32BJ for the last 12 years in the research department, supporting the local’s campaign to organize security officers and airport workers as well as supporting the bargaining campaign to win new contracts for cleaners in commercial office buildings and public schools. He has worked on coordinating the health and safety portions of organizing campaigns at BWI airport as well as at airports in Florida.
PLENARY BIOS

MEDIA STRATEGIES

Thursday, Dec 5 8:30am-9:45am - Auditorium

Alison Fitzgerald Kodjak, Associated Press

Kodjak is an award-winning journalist and author who has written about the U.S. financial collapse, the subsequent government bailout, the global food crisis, and the Gulf of Mexico oil spill as part of a specialty in economics and government news. She has fifteen years experience writing for wire services, newspapers and magazines and appearing on television, with the ability to explain complex economic and policy issues in a clear and concise manner to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

Kodjak has previously served as managing editor of the Center for Public Integrity and as a health policy correspondent at National Public Radio. She is the co-author, with Stanley Reed, of In Too Deep: BP and the Drilling Race that Took It Down. Kodjak is presently investigations editor at the Associated Press and president of the National Press Club.

Gloria Gonzalez, Industry Dive

Since graduating from Syracuse University with a magazine journalism and political science degree, Gonzalez has built a thriving career as a business and environmental journalist for more than two decades with media organizations such as BridgeNews, Crain Communications and Fulton Publications.

Her career has taken her to Montana to see the melting glaciers of Glacier National Park, to Florida to see the wonders of the Everglades, and to Texas to watch the wind industry hard at work developing much-needed renewable resources.

These experiences brought crucial color to Gonzalez’ day-to-day reporting on climate finance and its importance in mitigating the impact of climate change.

Gonzalez is currently the managing editor for energy and environment at Industry Dive.
Michele Salcedo, Axios

Michele Salcedo is the News Desk Editor at Axios, working with a team of editors and apprentices who thrive on breaking news. She came to Axios from The Associated Press, where she edited on the national general news desk in the Washington bureau and helped establish a social media presence for AP Politics. She is a veteran multiplatform reporter and editor. At the South Florida Sun-Sentinel, she twice led the Race and Demographics team and was the National-International Editor, overseeing coverage of Washington and Havana and reporting from throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. She was also a criminal justice reporter at Newsday and a Bexar County courthouse reporter at the San Antonio Light. She is a past membership secretary for the National Press Club and a past national president of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.
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Conference Planning Committee

National COSH Team:
Jessica E. Martinez, Co-Executive Director .................................................. jessica@nationalcosh.org
Marcy Goldstein-Gelb, Co-Executive Director .............................................. marcy@nationalcosh.org
Peter Dooley, Senior Project Coordinator ...................................................... peter@nationalcosh.org
Susi Nord, Conference Administrator ......................................................... susi@nationalcosh.org
Roger Kerson, RK Communications ............................................................ roger@nationalcosh.org

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National Offices

National COSH — West
Jessica E. Martinez, MPH
Co-Executive Director
jessica@nationalcosh.org
www.coshnetwork.org

National COSH — East
Marcy Goldstein-Gelb
Co-Executive Director
marcy@nationalcosh.org
www.coshnetwork.org

Full Member COSH Groups

Connecticut Council on Occupational Safety & Health (ConnectiCOSH)
683 N. Mountain Rd,
Newington, CT 06111
Mike Fitts, ED .................. mike.ctcosh@snet.net
860-953-2674 (o) .................. 860-953-1038 (f)
www.connecticosh.org

Maine Labor Group on Health (MLGH)
PO Box 5197
Augusta, ME 04332
Linda Doran .................. mlgh@gwi.net
207-622-7823 (o) .................. 207-622-3483 (f)
www.mlgh.org

Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety & Health (MassCOSH)
1532B Dorchester Ave.
Dorchester, MA 02122
Jodi Sugarman-Brozan, ED ........ jodi@masscosh.org
617-825-7233 (o) .................. 617-822-3718 (f)
www.masscosh.org

Mid-State New York COSH
701 W. State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
Carl Feuer, ED .................. carlfeuer@gmail.com
607-275-9560 (o) .................. 607-277-8344 (f)

New Hampshire Coalition for Occupational Safety & Health (NHCOSH)
161 Londonderry Turnpike
Hookset, NH 03106
Brian Mitchell, ED .............. nhcosh@nhcosh.org
603-232-4406 (o) .................. 603-493-1173 (c)
603-232-4461 (f)
www.nhcosh.org

New Jersey Work Environment Council (NJWEC)
7 Dunmore Ave, First Floor
East Ewing, NJ 08618
Dan Fatton, ED .............. dfatton@njwec.org
609-882-6100
www.njwec.org

New York Committee for Occupational Safety & Health (NYCOSH)
50 Broadway, 28th floor
NY, NY 10004
Charlene Obernauer, ED
charlene.obernauer@gmail.com
212-227-6440 (o) .................. 212-227-9854 (f)
www.nycosh.org

North East New York Coalition for Occupational Safety & Health (NENYCOSH)
P.O. Box 38098.
Albany, NY 12203.
Matt London, ED .............. mlondon53a@gmail.com
518-210-8238
Philadelphia Area Project on Occupational Safety & Health (PhilaPOSH)
3001 Walnut St., 5th Fl
Philadelphia, PA 19104
Nicole Fuller, ED ........................ nfuller@philaposh.org
215-386-7000 (o) ........................ 215-386-3529 (f)
www.philaposh.org

Rhode Island Committee on Occupational Safety & Health (RICOSH)
741 Westminster St.,
Providence, RI 02903
Jim Celenza, ED .......................... jascelenza@gmail.com
401-751-2015

Southern California Coalition for Occupational Safety & Health (SoCalCOSH)
1000 N Alameda St, Ste 240
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Alice Berliner .......................... aberliner@socalcosh.com
310.435.1423 (o) ........................ 213-808-1009 (f)
www.socalcosh.com

Associate Member COSH Groups

Workers’ Safety and Health Coalition of Central NY
6712 Brooklawn Parkway, Ste. 204
Syracuse, NY 13211
Michael Lax ............................. laxm@upstate.edu
315-432-8899 x.127
www.upstate.edu/cnyohcc

Fe y Justicia Worker Center
1836 Sul Ross St., Suite 1
Houston, TX 77098
832-862-8222 .......................... www.houstonworkers.org

Knox Area Worker Memorial Day Committee
Fran Ansley ............................. fran.ansley@gmail.com
865-573-0655

South Florida Interfaith Worker Justice
Bartram House, 1205 Sunset Drive
Miami, Florida 33143
Jeanette Smith, ED ........................ JeanetteSmith@sfiwj.org
305-598-1404
www.sfiwj.org

Western New York Council on Occupational Safety & Health (WNYCOSH)
2495 Main St., Ste 438
Buffalo, NY 14214
Germain Harnden, ED
germainharnden@wnycosh.com
716-833-5416 (o) ........................ 716-833-7507 (f)
www.wnycosh.org

Wisconsin Committee on Occupational Safety & Health (WisCOSH)
1535 W. Mitchell St.
Milwaukee, WI 53204
Jim Schultz, ED james.schultz@wiscosh.org 414-933-2338
www.wiscosh.org

Worksafe
55 Harrison St., Ste. 400
Oakland, CA 94607
510-302-1011 (o) ........................ 510-835-4913 (f)
www.worksafe.org

Wyoming COSH (WYCOSH) project of Equality State Policy Center
340 West B Street, Suite 203
Casper, WY 82601
Phoebe Stoner, ED ........................ pstoner@equalitystate.org
(307) 228-4163(o)
www.equalitystate.org

Mississippi Worker Center for Human Rights
PO Box 1223
Greenville, MS 38701
Jaribu Hill, ED ............................. jaribu.hill@gmail.com
662-334-1122
facebook.com/msworkers/

Safe Jobs Oregon
NW Workers’ Justice Project
812 SW Washington St, Ste 225
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JOIN US FOR SESSION 3
Wednesday, Dec. 4 at 3:00 p.m.

Motley Rice LLC, a South Carolina Limited Liability Company, is engaged in the New Jersey practice of law through Motley Rice New Jersey LLC. Esther Berezofsky attorney responsible for New Jersey practice.