



More than 130 AFSCME members across the state like Sametta Hill of Local 34 and her daughter (above) are volunteering and sharing labor achievements at the Minnesota State Fair through Sept. 5.

## Celebrate Labor at the Fair

The Minnesota State Fair is underway, and we're having a great time celebrating labor achievements, past and present. We're making sure labor history doesn't get lost by talking about significant past leaders, and great recent accomplishments, too.

Come join us at the Labor Pavilion at the corner of Dan Patch and Cooper. The fair runs through **Monday, Sept. 5**. You can hear music at the Labor Pavilion, win a prize during hourly drawings between 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and support our fellow union brothers and sisters.

Coming to the Fair? Let us know on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1556354814672794/>.

## Vote on Paid Parental Leave

State workers, including those at MnSCU, will vote **Aug. 30, 31 and Sept. 1** on ratifying paid parental leave. Under a memorandum of understanding, state workers who are birth or adoptive parents would get six weeks of paid leave. That would save the average state worker \$6,200 in lost time, along with giving new parents time to bond with their children. Providing this leave would benefit the state, too, making it easier to recruit and retain workers.

Only AFSCME members are eligible to vote. Bring your card for verification. Fee payers can become eligible to vote by signing a membership card at a voting site. Cast your ballot at any location listed here: <http://tinyurl.com/hvwbzux>.

## Take Action for Workers

Are you tired of politicians who don't value workers and our families? Help ensure that our elected leaders share values that are worker friendly by taking part in the next Labor 2016 Day of Action.

Join your union brothers and sisters on **Thursday, Sept. 8**. We'll be door knocking at locations all over our great state from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. Together, we can protect the Minnesota Senate, take back the State House and win in the 2nd and 8th congressional districts to create a better quality of life for all workers.

For more information, contact [Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org](mailto:Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org) in South St. Paul or [Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org](mailto:Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org) in Duluth.

## Free College for Members

AFSCME is excited to announce a new benefit for members, families and retirees: a free associate degree from Eastern Gateway Community College. The AFSCME Free College Benefit is one more way AFSCME helps members secure the opportunities and the respect you deserve. The program is also designed to be flexible: You can take online classes that fit your schedule.

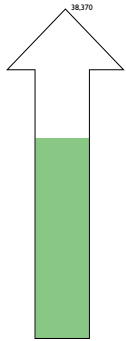
Get the details at: <http://afscmemn.org/story/free-college-afscme-members>.

You'll need your AFSCME International number to apply. If you don't have one, call AFSCME International at 202-429-1000.

## AFSCME Strong Update

AFSCME Strong is our program

to determine our own destiny by building a stronger union with members who are more engaged. Sign a membership card to protect your job, defend our rights and preserve the quality of services we provide our communities. To reach our goal of 94 percent membership, we need to sign up **13,987** more workers.



## Legislative Scorecard Up

Want to know how your state lawmaker and other key Minnesota senators and representatives voted on multiple issues that are crucial to workers and their families?

Check out the latest Minnesota legislative voting report: <http://tinyurl.com/gr4ahkd>.

## Diaper Drive Is Big Success

Disposable diapers are expensive, and needy families can find themselves cutting back on other necessities such as food or child care to afford them. The Diaper Days of Summer event was born to help meet that need. AFSCME Local 753 at St. Cloud State University



Brian Lindholt of Local 221 helps his boys, Caiden and Brian Jr., eat at the AFSCME Family Picnic. Hundreds of AFSCME members and their families enjoyed a day full of food, song and solidarity. Check out more photos on AFSCME Council 5's Facebook and Flickr pages.

partnered with the campaign to donate about 5,000 diapers in just one week. Orders are still coming in, and thanks to generous people like our members, organizers say they'll collect close to 70,000 diapers overall.

## Scholarship Application Opens

The AFSCME Family Scholarship for 2017 is now taking applications. Children of full dues-paying members can apply for one of 10

scholarships, worth \$2,000 a year for up to four years. The postmark deadline is **Dec. 31**. Download the form and learn more at: [www.afscme.org/family](http://www.afscme.org/family).

## Get in on the Action

Action Update publishes twice a month for locals and activists in AFSCME Council 5. Download a copy at [www.afscmemn.org](http://www.afscmemn.org) or share an event by emailing: [Lynette.Kalsnes@afscmemn.org](mailto:Lynette.Kalsnes@afscmemn.org).

### Mark Your Calendar

Event	Date	Place
AFSCME at the State Fair	Aug. 25 through Sept. 5	State Fairgrounds, Saint Paul
AFL-CIO Central Labor Body Labor Day Picnic	Monday, Sept. 5	Bayfront Festival Park, Duluth
Solidarity Day Picnic	Monday, Sept. 5 from noon to 4 p.m.	Riverside Park, St. Cloud
Labor 2016 Day of Action	Thursday, Sept. 8	Locations across Minnesota
Labor Movie Night	Friday, Sept. 16, 7 p.m.	United Labor Centre, Minneapolis
AFSCME Council 5 Annual Convention	Sept. 22 through Sept. 24	DoubleTree Hotel, Bloomington