

# ALACHUA COUNTY LABOR COALITION

## SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER

### Petition for Medicaid Expansion in Florida

By *Gaby Gross*

The ACLC is collecting signatures for a petition to put a constitutional amendment for Medicaid Expansion on the ballot in 2020. We are part of a statewide coalition which includes Planned Parenthood, SEIU, Indivisible and Florida Voices for Health.

An estimated 500,000 Florida residents have no access to affordable health insurance. At present in Florida, in order to be eligible for Medicaid insurance you have to be a parent and earn less than 30% of the Federal Poverty Level, \$6234 a year for a family of three.

Under the Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”), as it was amended by the U.S. Supreme Court, states can expand their Medicaid insurance programs to cover everyone earning less than 138% of the Federal Poverty Level. If Florida were to adopt this expansion 90% of the cost would be covered by Federal funds.

Our legislature’s refusal to accept these funds is both cruel and irrational. Thousands of residents who need medical attention can’t get it. Many are unable to work and many die. The Federal funding which could be used to benefit Florida residents comes from our income taxes and

benefits residents of other states.

To get the petition on the ballot a million signed petitions are needed to ensure that there are 770,000 valid ones. If the preliminary step of getting 10% of that number was completed by the end of February the petition will be reviewed by the Florida Supreme Court and, if approved, we will then aim to obtain the rest.

Much work gathering signatures will be needed, and we are looking to members to help. You can obtain petitions from the ACLC office, 352-375-2832, [info@laborcoalition.org](mailto:info@laborcoalition.org). Return signed petitions to the ACLC office.

What we really need is expanded and Improved Medicare for All, but Medicaid Expansion is a short-term achievable goal.

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Find us on Instagram and Twitter  
[@laborcoalition](https://www.instagram.com/laborcoalition)

# ALACHUA COUNTY LABOR COALITION

Stay updated with the Labor Coalition via our website and Facebook for related news, upcoming meetings, and events.



Alachua County  
Labor Coalition

[facebook.com/laborcoalition](https://facebook.com/laborcoalition)

Phone: (352) 375-2832

[www.LaborCoalition.org](http://www.LaborCoalition.org)

E-mail:

[info@laborcoalition.org](mailto:info@laborcoalition.org)

Location:

502 NW 16th Ave, Ste. 2B  
Gainesville, Florida

*Office Hours*

*Mon: 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM*

*Tues: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM*

*Wed: 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM*

*Thur: 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM*

*& 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM*

*Or by Appointment*

Mailing Address:

PO Box 12051  
Gainesville, FL 32604



## MONTHLY MEETINGS

The Alachua County Labor Coalition (ACLC) is composed of individuals, unions, and worker-friendly organizations committed to the economic, environmental, civil, and social rights of working people, their families, and communities, and to the ecological systems that sustain us. We meet monthly and updated information about our meetings can be found via our website, Facebook group, and e-newsletter.

## BOARD MEMBERS

Laurie Taylor & Scott Darius, *Co-Chairs*  
Sean Trainor & Dave Hennig, *Treasurers*  
Sheila Payne, *Membership Coordinator*  
Marilyn Eisenberg, *Outreach Coordinator*  
Gaby Gross, *CMC Liaison*  
Chad Hood, *Health Care Liaison*  
Jeremiah Tattersall, *Union Liaison*  
Jesse Cosme, *ACLC Coordinator*  
Ashley Nguyen, *ACLC Coordinator*  
Jesse Cosme & Jessica Newman, *Newsletter Production*  
Shawna Doran, *Green Party Delegate*  
Greg Mullaley, *Veterans for Peace Delegate*  
James Ingle, *IBEW 1205 Delegate*  
Sylvia James, *CWA 3170 Delegate*  
Jason Fults, *North Florida Central Labor Council Delegate*

## MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

*All Member Organizations are encouraged to appoint a Delegate to the ACLC Board.*

- Alachua County Education Association
- Alachua County Green Party
- Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 1579
- Civic Media Center
- Communication Workers of America, Local 3170
- Cultural Arts Coalition
- Gainesville Veterans for Peace
- Industrial Workers of the World, Gainesville Branch
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 1205
- Madres Sin Fronteras
- North Central Florida Central Labor Council
- Our Revolution North Central Florida (OurRev NCFL)
- Pride Community Center of North Central FL
- Rural Women's Health Project
- Socialist Alternative
- UF Graduate Assistants United
- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville
- United Church of Gainesville Social Justice Committee
- United Faculty of Florida
- Women's March

# UF Campus Coalition Teach-In

By Ashley Ngyuen

On February 6th, the University of Florida Campus Coalition held its first in a series of teach-ins with the intention of educating members of the UF community about environmentalism, labor, and race relations. Over 50 members of the community attended the Teach-In, including speaker Dr. Wendell Porter and speakers from Divest UF, Graduate Assistants United, and UF Students.

Presenters spoke about the necessity for UF to buy its energy from local source GRU, the inadequate funding for mental health resources provided by the university's administration, and the demands for UF to divest its endowment from the fossil fuel industry, as well as the prison labor industry. The audience was given the chance to ask presenters questions about how to go about organizing for each issue, sparking discussion that connected different organizing groups together.

"I greatly enjoyed attending the teach-in and found it to be very informative about important issues pertaining to the University of Florida. I was impressed to see representation from a number of local movements join together to lead such an important event," said Charles Karcher, a second-year UF student who attended the teach-in.

The UF Campus Coalition, initiated by ACLC formed during UF's Fall 2018 semester, composed of core members of an array of progressive organizing groups in Alachua County. Leaders of the Coalition include members from the Alachua County Labor Coalition, Graduate Assistants United, and United Faculty of Florida at UF. The goal of the Campus Coalition is to form a formalized channel of mutual support for students, faculty, and other members of the UF community that feel unjustly alienated by administration. The Campus Coalition hopes to serve as a springboard for collaboration between groups who organize to improve the quality of the UF experience. The next Campus Coalition Teach-In will be held on March 13th, focusing on labor, featuring the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, Graduate Assistants United, and Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee with continuing discussion about OPS workers at UF.



*Participants of the UF Campus Coalition engaged in our first teach-in [Photo courtesy of ACLC Labor Liaison, Jeremiah Tattersall].*

# Santa Fe Adjunct Faculty File for a Union Election

By Glynn Hayes, Santa Fe Adjunct Faculty

In December of 2018 Adjunct Faculty at Santa Fe College filed for a Union Election. This is from a speech given by Glynn Hayes, a Natural Sciences Adjunct Professor, at the January 14th, Santa Fe Board of Trustees meeting

I have worked as an adjunct at Santa Fe College for more than ten years and am proud to work for this exemplary institution. I often have students take several of my different classes and I spend considerable time talking to students outside of class about their hopes, concerns, and goals. I also know that for many adjuncts who have to work several jobs, these types of time investments in our students is desired but just not possible.

We, as adjuncts, make up more than 50% of the faculty. Santa Fe College could not function or maintain its high standards without the service of its adjuncts. Adjunct positions were created as temporary short-term positions, but because of funding cutbacks in education, adjuncting is no longer a temporary thing and full-time positions are few and far in between.

Today, adjuncts carry significant responsibility in the success of institutions but are under-compensated (equally qualified but receiving only half the pay of a full time professor to teach the same class), under-appreciated, and under-represented in decision-making bodies. Adjuncts have no benefits, and many struggle to pay for their basic needs. We have no job security even though many of us have taught the same courses for more than 5 years, and this does not allow for adjuncts to make long-term investments into the college.

We do not believe that the college that many of us have served for more than 10 years would knowingly support a system that rides on the back of people who live under these conditions. Over time, the general education system has become more exploitive, not less.

Because of these factors, we have decided to form a union to represent the rights of



Glynn Hayes delivering the speech transcribed in this newsletter at the Santa Fe Board of Trustees meeting on Jan. 14, 2019.

adjunct faculty. As Americans, we all have a right to fair working conditions. We know that together with the administration of Santa Fe College, the adjunct union can develop solutions. Let me say again that we are proud to work for this institution and we commit ourselves to student and institutional success. We are eager to work with you to find solutions that make all of our lives and communities better.

*Editor's note: The Labor Coalition has been involved in helping nurture the campaign and we are elated at the progress the campaign has made as it is nearing the point of filing for union status.*



*Various members of the ACLC enjoying the photo booth at our Christmas Potluck held on Dec. 18, 2018.*

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*Various members of the ACLC participating in the 2019 Martin Luther King Day March.*



# Gainesville City Elections, March 19

## ACLK Candidate Questionnaires

*Editors Note: Candidate responses have been edited for spacing only. All of the content written is true to the original submission by each respective candidate. All candidates were asked to fill out questionnaire, any submitted after deadline will be posted to our website. The Labor Coalition does not endorse any candidates and the inclusion of these questionnaire responses to our newsletter and website should not be taken as an endorsement.*

### Adrian Hayes-Santos, City of Gainesville Commission District 4



#### **1. What are the biggest issues facing working people in the City of Gainesville?**

Affordable and safe housing, cost and ease of transportation, and good

jobs that pay a living wage.

#### **2. Do you support paying a living wage for all City workers including part-time, temporary, seasonal, and contracted workers? (The ACLC defines a living wage as 125% of the Federal Poverty Level – currently \$15.08 an hour)**

**a. The Gainesville Living Wage Ordinance for contractors has so many loopholes that it applies to almost no contracts the City currently has. To address this issue, Mayor Brady started to look into updating the Ordinance in December 2015, but no action has been taken until December 2018 when a six-month study was started. What will you do to ensure the timely and effective changes needed to the Gainesville's Living Wage Ordinance?**

Yes I fully support paying all city employees a living wage of at least \$15 an hour, and I have voted in favor of budgets that have moved employees toward that every year I've been on the commission. When I first came onto the city commission, there was significant push back from the more conservative

commissioners to not include seasonal and temporary employees in living wage increases. I, along with mayor Poe, were successful in pushing back and were able to include seasonal and temporary employees in the increased living wage. I do support removing all loopholes in the living wage ordinance as it concerns contractors. Contractors should be included in the living wage increases, and I will push for them to be included in this year's budget.

#### **3. What other ideas do you have to help improve wages and benefits for workers throughout our community?**

While there may be no direct way for the city to force wage increases for the community, the city can work to make housing more affordable by passing the "Renters Rights" ordinance. I also support the city continuing to increase minimum wages for city workers and contractors which would help pressure other businesses in the community to raise their wages.

#### **4. What do you envision as the role of large local employers in Gainesville in helping to improve wages, benefit workers, and reduce inequalities? How have/ would you encourage these large local employers to address these issues?**

An increased minimum wage law for the city would make the most significant impact; unfortunately the state of Florida has preempted the city from taking action on this issue. I have strongly supported a real living wage for city workers and while on the commission the city has increase wages for the lowest paid city workers by \$4.70 per hour. I support the city

moving towards a \$15 minimum living wage. With wages increasing at the city and county, this should put pressure on larger employees in the city.

**5. Do you support providing paid administrative leave for part-time, temporary, seasonal, and contracted City workers in the event of emergency work closures (e.g., hours missed due to a natural disaster)?**

When a hurricane comes, there are areas of our government that shutdown, but there is also a huge need for other work in the city government. I think it's important that we cross train and have opportunities for every city worker to work and get paid when a hurricane comes.

When unplanned events happen like a bomb threat, those employees should be paid.

**6. If you are an employer: Do you pay all your workers a living wage? If you do not: How are you making an effort to do so?**

I'm not an employer.

**7. Do you support a "Renters Bill of Rights" which would:**

**a. Offer an alternative to costly courts to settle disputes over security deposits and damages.**

**b. Protect renters from high utility bills by enacting policies that require landlords to make basic investments in energy and water efficiency.**

**c. Require universal licensing and safety/health inspections of all rental property.**

**d. Offer protections against discrimination based on source of income and citizenship status.**

**e. Ensure greater disclosure of renters' rights and responsibilities.**

I fully support the "Renters Bill of Rights"! I'm proud to have collaborated with the ACLC to create the proposed "Renters Bill of Rights", and to have helped push the proposal through the city commission. My goal is for the ordinance to be passed by mid year.

**8. What are some policies the the City of Gainesville can enact to improve access to quality, safe affordable housing in our community?**

The biggest thing that the city can do is to pass the proposed Renters Rights ordinance. This ordinance would ensure that everyone who rents in the city has a safe and healthy place to live, and that their rental unit is energy efficient to help lower utility costs. The city should also look at increased density along major corridors to help reduce the housing shortage, and to make transportation an easier and more affordable option for renters. I also support inclusionary zoning policies and community land trusts that would help increase the amount of affordable housing in our community.

**9. Do you support a local hiring preference that includes the use of certified apprenticeship programs for taxpayer funded projects?**

Yes, I do! I believe the city should add this to the requirements for city construction projects.

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**Lauren Poe, City of Gainesville Mayoral Candidate**



**1. What are the biggest issues facing working people in the City of Gainesville?**

Many issues intersect to present significant challenges to Gaines-

ville's working people. Transportation challenges limit access to jobs based on geography, times and employer expectations. Housing is a huge challenge both because of cost issues, including but not limited to rent, locations, utility costs, access to quality schools, food or healthcare, and so on... Quality of employ-

*continued on p.8*

ment opportunities is also an issue. A job that offers benefits, opportunity for advancement, work hour flexibility and paid time off all create barriers. Additional barriers include quality healthcare options, access to nutritious and affordable food, quality out-of-school programming for working families, competition for jobs with part-time students, and the list goes on.

**2. Do you support paying a living wage for all City workers including part-time, temporary, seasonal, and contracted workers? (The ACLC defines a living wage as 125% of the Federal Poverty Level – currently \$15.08 an hour)**

Yes, and I continue to be committed to implementing the living wage plan agreed to between the city and the ACLC two year ago until we achieve a full living wage for all city employees.

**a. The Gainesville Living Wage Ordinance for contractors has so many loopholes that it applies to almost no contracts the City currently has. To address this issue, Mayor Brady started to look into updating the Ordinance in December 2015, but no action has been taken until December 2018 when a six-month study was started. What will you do to ensure the timely and effective changes needed to the Gainesville's Living Wage Ordinance?**

We have full implementation of the living wage extended to all people contracted to work for the city as part of our FY20-22 budget and are working on a verification procedure. The latter is more problematic, as most cities do not have a good verification procedure in place. I do not want to extend LW payments to contractors just to have them pocket the increased profit and pass none of the benefit along to the actual workers. I look forward to working with the ACLC to resolve this matter.

**3. What other ideas do you have to help improve wages and benefits for workers**

**throughout our community?**

I would like to continue working with programs like GEAP (Gainesville Entrepreneurs facing Adversity Program), the Gainesville Housing Authority entrepreneurship program, Project YouthBuild, Career Source and other programs. This emphasis will help, in addition to of helping a resident find a good job, be able to create their own (and hire more people as they grow). I also think there are good opportunities to work with apprenticeship programs to create a pipeline between well-paying trades and jobs in areas of critical need such as masons, mechanics, and electricians. Better partnerships between the various trade organizations, UF, SF and the private sector can reap incredible benefits for our area's underemployed.

**4. What do you envision as the role of large local employers in helping to improve wages, benefit workers, and reduce inequalities? How have/ would you encourage these large local employers to address these issues?**

I have urged some of our largest employers to raise their floor, including my own employer Santa Fe College. The University, city, county and school board are some of the largest employers, not just in our county, but in the region. If we can set the standard, the private sector will need to follow in order to attract top talent.

**5. Do you support providing paid administrative leave for part-time, temporary, seasonal, and contracted City workers in the event of emergency work closures (e.g., hours missed due to a natural disaster)?**

Yes, and we are currently developing a policy in order to do so.

**6. If you are an employer: Do you pay all your workers a living wage? If you do not: How are you making an effort to do so?**

We have committed to a plan with the ACLC to fully implement a living wage within the next three years.



**7. Do you support a “Renters Bill of Rights” which would:**

**a. Offer an alternative to costly courts to settle disputes over security deposits and damages.**

**b. Protect renters from high utility bills by enacting policies that require landlords to make basic investments in energy and water efficiency.**

**c. Require universal licensing and safety/health inspections of all rental property.**

**d. Offer protections against discrimination based on source of income and citizenship status.**

**e. Ensure greater disclosure of renters’ rights and responsibilities.**

Yes, and I am hopeful we will get this passed by late spring/early summer.

**8. What are some policies the City of Gainesville can enact to improve access to quality, safe affordable housing in our**

**community?**

There is not enough space to do this question justice in the questionnaire, but some of the elements that need to be part of the discussion and possible long-term solution include: a more enhanced partnership with the Gainesville Housing Authority to build more public housing, allow Accessory Dwelling Units in all zoning areas, encourage rehabilitation, partnering with community land trusts, and pass an inclusionary zoning policy with teeth. All of this needs to be done with sensitivity towards issues of displacement and gentrification.

**9. Do you support a local hiring preference that includes the use of certified apprenticeship programs for taxpayer funded projects?**

Yes, and I am excited to understand more about the significant value this could bring to both the city and our community workforce.

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**Jenn Powell, City of Gainesville Mayoral Candidate**

**1. What are the biggest issues facing working people in the City of Gainesville?**

The recent United Way study shows 50% of our community living paycheck to paycheck, “asset limited, income constrained, employed.” Working people literally can’t afford to live in Gainesville. Since taking City office in 2010 our mayor has not addressed these issues by demanding that University of Florida, his own employer Santa Fe College, and the City itself pay a living wage. And his Commission majority are only just during this election cycle beginning to address contractor wage loopholes and East Side bus deficiencies. As an ACLC Committee of 100 supporter I know how lucky we are to have the ACLC pushing for living wages, but we need a mayor that will use the office to be aggressive. As your Mayor I will publicly demand change, not just send things to committee for study.

**all City workers including part-time, temporary, seasonal, and contracted workers? (The ACLC**



**defines a living wage as 125% of the Federal Poverty Level – currently \$15.08 an hour)**

Absolutely, I do. Support is one thing. Demanding action is another. I hope to join a growing majority on the City Commission that cares about these issues. I have also pledged not to accept a salary greater than the hourly rate of our lowest paid City Employees which is currently \$13.50/hr.

**a. The Gainesville Living Wage Ordinance for contractors has so many loop-**

**2. Do you support paying a living wage for**

*continued on p.10*

holes that it applies to almost no contracts the City currently has. To address this issue, Mayor Brady started to look into updating the Ordinance in December 2015, but no action has been taken until December 2018 when a six-month study was started. What will you do to ensure the timely and effective changes needed to the Gainesville's Living Wage Ordinance?

There is no excuse for waiting on this. Labor leaders and community activists have challenged these loopholes for years while the mayor has been in office. My first action on taking office will be to make a motion to close this loophole and to negotiate contracts already in effect that do not follow it.

**3. What other ideas do you have to help improve wages and benefits for workers throughout our community?**

In the past city officials have limited themselves to what managers will let them do, or claimed that some things are outside their duties. I will be a mayor who uses the position to advocate for improved wages and benefits for all of Gainesville's workers. This includes UF's OPS employees, all UF employees, Santa Fe College, Alachua County, and the Alachua County School Board. We need to press each other to lift all workers out of poverty.

**4. What do you envision as the role of large local employers in Gainesville in helping to improve wages, benefit workers, and reduce inequalities? How have/ would you encourage these large local employers to address these issues?**

The first thing we can do is welcome UF's main campus into our publicly owned utility power grid at GRU. This will keep a huge amount of money from leaving our community to Duke Energy corporate shareholders, and put it back into salaried positions and other jobs at GRU. Gainesville's Utility Advisory Board is excited about this, but the mayor and some of his colleagues are not moving on it.

The second thing we can do is turn campaign promises into an actual public campaign from the Mayor's office. I will stand with my ACLC fellow workers and supporters as your next Mayor to explain to the public who is paying what, where the profits or dollars are going, and to encourage all businesses and institutions to create local hiring and contractor preferences with living wage jobs.

**5. Do you support providing paid administrative leave for part-time, temporary, seasonal, and contracted City workers in the event of emergency work closures (e.g., hours missed due to a natural disaster)?**

Yes. This should be a part of the reforms we make to our wage structure and our contractor loopholes.

**6. If you are an employer: Do you pay all your workers a living wage? If you do not: How are you making an effort to do so?**

I own a small business on top of my regular job. We are an IBEW local 1205 union shop and are Living Wage Certified.

**7. Do you support a "Renters Bill of Rights" which would:**

a. Offer an alternative to costly courts to settle disputes over security deposits and damages.

b. Protect renters from high utility bills by enacting policies that require landlords to make basic investments in energy and water efficiency.

c. Require universal licensing and safety/health inspections of all rental property.

d. Offer protections against discrimination based on source of income and citizenship status.

e. Ensure greater disclosure of renters' rights and responsibilities.

I fully endorse the ACLC Renter's Rights policy. The City Commission has this in committee and is, according to one of the mayor's supporters, going to "see what staff will let us do." I promise to take action and have a debate with my colleagues. We already have

the data and have heard the stories. Commit-tee time is over.

**8. What are some policies the City of Gainesville can enact to improve access to quality, safe affordable housing in our community?**

Properly utilizing the tools already available such as The Community Reinvestment Act

of 1977, The Sadowski Fund along with a strong the renters rights program is a start.

**9. Do you support a local hiring preference that includes the use of certified apprenticeship programs for taxpayer funded projects?**

Yes.

## Safe & Healthy Housing For All Campaign (Formerly Renters' Rights)

*By Jesse Cosme*

In 1948, the United Nations released their universal declaration of human rights that was signed by all 192 member countries at the time. Within this universal declaration of human rights is the right to adequate housing. Here in Gainesville we are at a critical point when it comes to adequate housing. Our Safe & Healthy Housing For All campaign seeks to advance this universal right in the direction that the United Nations and member countries envisioned by ensuring the availability of services, materials and infrastructure for the people who live in them, that housing is habitable, that housing is accessible, all the while still remaining affordable for people of varying class backgrounds.

As you may have noticed already we changed the name from the “Renters’ Rights” Campaign to the “Safe & Healthy Housing For All” Campaign. We do not want this rebranding to be perceived as a backing off from defending the rights of renters but rather as a more holistic approach in embracing the nuanced strategies it will take to align the current conditions in Gainesville to embrace the needs articulated in our campaign and the housing as a human right model. As we have interacted with so many different people and groups in Gainesville that have artic-

ulated to us how important housing is in terms of health, education, and economic earning outcomes.

The campaign is currently at a pivotal moment. Within the next month the City of Gainesville’s Renters’ Rights Subcommittee will sunset and the recommendations will be referred back to the City Commission. Commissioners will be directing staff on the creation of an ordinance that will capture a years worth of campaign work but immeasurable amounts of time and effort from so many people to push for greater housing equality in Gainesville. If you wish to be a part of this monumental moment there are many ways you can support, some of them are listed below:

1. Contact the City Commission in support of renters rights: [CityComm@cityofgainesville.org](mailto:CityComm@cityofgainesville.org). You can use your own language or we can send you some sample language.

2. Ask your friends for their stories on being a renter in Gainesville. Numerous people have been helping us collect stories and these serve as powerful testimonials in City Commission meetings.

3. Help us make phone calls to supporters. If you’re able to help with this, just send us an email and we can get you started.

*10th Annual Alachua County  
Peace Poetry Contest 2019, 5<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Peace Scholarship Awards*



**PUBLIC READING AND RECEPTION**

**SATURDAY, MAY 4**

**2:00 PM**

**FREE! MUSIC! REFRESHMENTS!**

*Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of  
Gainesville*

*4225 NW 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Gainesville*

Gainesville Veterans for Peace invites all students, K-12, in Alachua County to submit one poem on the subject of peace. Winners are invited to read their poems aloud at the public reading on May 4th and poems are also published in the 2019 Peace Poetry book. VFP will also be awarding three Peace Scholarships to students who applied and demonstrate a commitment to peace and social justice. Send poems to [vfpeacepoetrycontest@gmail.com](mailto:vfpeacepoetrycontest@gmail.com), and scholarship applications to [ortizrof@gmail.com](mailto:ortizrof@gmail.com). More info at: <http://www.vfngainesville.org/>.



*Members of the UF Campus Coalition which include UFF, GAU, CIW, and the ACLC showing solidarity to AAUP Wright State who were in the midst of a strike for a fair contract. A video was shared in solidarity on social media that they used to support their campaign victory.*

# 100 C-100 Members

by Chad Hood, ACLC board

In 1999, organizers for the Alachua County Labor Party (ACLP) launched an ambitious campaign to get a non-binding single-payer referendum on the 2000 ballot. This referendum was intended to test voter support for “a single-payer government-run health care system that got rid of insurance companies and provided coverage for everyone.” The referendum passed in every precinct and got more votes than Bush, more votes than Gore, and more than any of the state, local, and national candidates on the ballot that year except one.

One valuable lesson from the referendum was the importance of having paid staff dedicated to organizing such an extensive campaign. To build on the momentum from this success, the Committee of 100 was formed, asking supporters to donate \$20/month to continue funding this important work. Starting with just a handful of committed patrons, the Committee of 100 was born. First to join was the late Harriet Ludwig – civil rights activist, journalist champion of independent press, and founding member of the Civic Media Center.

Since then, the Committee of 100 has grown over the past 20 years strengthening support of health care for all, as well as wage theft protection, a living wage, immigrant protection, renters’ rights, and issues important to working people. The Committee of 100 was the lifeblood of the ACLP and continues to be for the Alachua County Labor Coalition. Without it we would not have an office, a budget, a legacy of outstanding current and former paid political organizers, and the capacity to continue to kick ass for the working class.

That’s why it’s thrilling and inspiring to announce this year, with newest member Jay Maggio, the Committee of 100 has reached its 100th member. What a powerful statement about the support and dedication of this wonderful community we live in. Our heartfelt thanks and appreciation go out to every Committee of 100 member for your financial contributions and for taking a committed stand to help us continue to bend that moral arc towards justice.

But of course we won’t stop here. Let’s head for another 100! Or how about a Committee of 1000? We have so much work to do against a toxic presidency that shows no respect for the rights of women, minorities, the downtrodden, and the working people of this country (citizens and non-citizens). We need your help to continue to harness the groundswell of activism and outrage erupting across our nation and in our own neighborhoods.

Please join the Committee of 100 today (or increase your current support). Help fund our important work towards safe and healthy housing for all, expansion of Medicaid to save lives today while working towards Medicare for All tomorrow, the rights of underpaid and undervalued faculty at UF and Santa Fe, and our other current and future vital projects.

*From Coalition of Immokalee Workers:* Join UF students and the broader Gainesville community for the 4 for Fair Food Tour March for Farmworker Justice at UF on March 14 as we demand that UF put their principles into action, and stand up for basic dignity and respect for Florida’s farmworkers.

## Ready for the 4 for Fair Food Tour?



CHAPEL HILL

MARCH 5



U OF MICH

MARCH 11



OHIO STATE

MARCH 8



U OF FLORIDA

MARCH 14

[www.boycott-wendys.org](http://www.boycott-wendys.org)



# To Our Members: There's No Us Without You!

*Thank you to our Committee of 100 members, who provide a monthly pledge to the ACLC to sustain our work—you form the core of support that pays for the ACLC's day-to-day expenses so that we can focus on organizing!*

Alachua County Education Association  
Alachua County Green Party  
Seth Alexander & Miguel Valdez  
Jade Allen  
Neesha Anderson  
Kirk Anthony  
Mary Bahr  
Caron Cadle & Ralf Remshardt  
Randi Cameon  
Scott Camil  
Central Fla. Central Labor Council  
Lynn Chacko  
Candi Churchill  
Ira & Joanna Clark  
Carol Cobb  
Amy Coenen  
Ken Cornell  
Joe Courter  
Oscar Crisalle  
Arthur & Mary Crummer  
CWA 3170  
Scott Darius  
Nancy Deren  
Cynthia Digby  
Shawna Doran  
Marilyn Eisenberg  
Brooke & Nate Eliazar-Macke  
Ed Emery  
Jason Fults  
Regan Garner  
Bill Gilbert  
Gaby Gross  
Jesse Hall  
Skipper Hammond  
Dan Harmeling  
Heidi Harris  
Elizabeth Hauck  
Dave Hennig & Nancy Shebeneck  
Chad Hood  
IBEW Local 1205  
Robert Ing  
James & Trish Ingle  
Cynthia Karle  
Christopher Kennard  
Beth & Kurt Kent  
Alex Leader & Jeff Mason  
Debbie Lewis  
Eric Lindstrom & Amandine Lejuene  
Vince Lipsio  
Jay Maggio  
M. Glen McClure & Theresa Spurling-Wood  
Murdo MacLeod  
Richard and Eve MacMaster  
Chris & Jane Medved  
Pamela & Tracy Moorman  
Greg Mullaley  
Susan O'Brien  
Paul Ortiz  
Paul Parker  
Sheila Payne  
Sara Peden & Stephen Roberts  
Julie Penrod-Glenn  
Kate Phillips  
Linda Piotrowski-Lavery  
Eric Piotrowski  
Mark Piotrowski  
Jenn Powell  
Alice Primack  
Jon and Julia Reiskind  
Andrew Reynolds  
Leah Rosenberg  
Robert Sammel  
Kathie Sarachild  
Zoharah Simmons  
Dari Smith  
Fred Southwick  
Gerald Stein  
Sherry Steiner  
Annie, Kay, and Doug Stephenson  
Timothy Strauser & Marcy Strauser-Wilson  
Anita Sundaram  
Linell Szurgot  
Jeremiah Tattersall  
Laurie Taylor  
Pete Taylor  
Carol Thomas  
Ranson Thomas  
James Thompson  
Timothy Tia  
Richard Trachsel  
Sean Trainor  
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
United Faculty of Fla., UF  
Martin & Vibeke Vala  
Veterans for Peace Gainesville  
Sue Vince  
Kendra Vincent  
Michael Walker  
Bill & Sally Warrick  
Steadly Young  
*In memory: Pennie Foster, Jack Penrod, Zot Szurgot*

# LABOR COALITION MEMBERSHIP FORM

**YOU CAN ALSO JOIN ONLINE:**  
[WWW.LABORCOALITION.ORG/DONATE/](http://WWW.LABORCOALITION.ORG/DONATE/)

Membership includes a one-year subscription to ACLC newsletter.

- Yes! I want to join the Labor Coalition.
- Membership begins at \$25/year
- Yes! I want to be a yearly Sustainer.
- Sustainers begin at \$60- \$100/Year.
- Yes! I want to Join the Committee of 100

The Committee of 100 a higher level of membership that serves as a core support system for the Labor Coalition. It includes membership, a subscription to the ACLC newsletter as well as recognition in the newsletter. I prefer to pay my dues:

- Monthly - \$20/month
- Quarterly - \$60/quarter
- Annually - \$240/year

I'd like to volunteer my time with the ACLC

- phone-banking  organizing events  distributing ACLC literature at other public events  writing for the newsletter
- data entry  web design  social media

Please make checks out to "Labor Coalition." Send order form to Alachua County Labor Coalition, PO Box 12051, Gainesville, FL 32604.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Union/Organization or Interests (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

## Upcoming Meetings and Events

**Tuesday, 3/12**, 6 pm: Just Health Care Meeting,  
Location: ACLC Office

**Wednesday, 3/13**, 6pm: UF Campus Coalition Teach-  
In Series on Labor; Location: Pugh Hall

**FREE FOOD AND DRINK**

**Tuesday, 3/26**, 6pm: ACLC General Meeting,  
Location: Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave,  
Gainesville, FL 32609)

**Tuesday, 4/2**, 6pm: ACLC Board Meeting,  
Location: ACLC Office

**Tuesday, 4/23**, 6pm: ACLC General Meeting,  
Location: Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave,  
Gainesville, FL 32609)

*Professional childcare can be provided at meetings. Please contact  
info@laborcoalition.org or call (352)375-2832 three days  
in advance to request childcare services.*

**ALACHUA COUNTY  
LABOR COALITION**

POST OFFICE BOX 12051  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32604