



## AFSCME Local 1624 Annual Report

AFSCME Local 1624 began 2009 with immediate challenges.

We faced the prospect of layoffs, furloughs, wage and/or benefit reductions at both the City of Austin and Travis County due to budget shortfalls.

Additionally, the Community Care Department at the City of Austin was being transferred to the Austin/ Travis County Healthcare District, resulting in a loss of 80 AFSCME members.

AFSCME was confronting issues which ranged from the complete overhaul of the Travis County compensation system to a clogged career ladder program at Austin Water Utility.

We rolled up our sleeves and went to work:

AFSCME members, joined by other City employees, held a rally at the City's first budget hearing and were successful in halting a proposal to eliminate Stability Pay awards and implement furloughs.

We were appointed to the Travis County Compensation Committee and have already achieved a consensus that all future market studies shall be implemented with a full-funding mechanism that is built into the preliminary budget.

With the recent addition of our Partnership with Public Works Street and Bridge division, AFSCME is now involved in five working partnerships with various departments at the City and County. Through our participation we are able to assist in identifying issues and improve working conditions.

We have provided representation to over 200 members this year and have a 95% success rate in resolving their issues.

The proof is in the pudding as they say. So a good measure of our efforts and effectiveness can be seen in our member growth and stability.

Through 2009 we added 439 new members to our union. This was accomplished through our increased presence in worksites and the realization among County and City employees that, by organizing around the issues, we can have a positive impact on outcomes.

Additionally, we increased participation in our Political Action Committee (PEOPLE) by 65 members, bringing our total participation to 15%. Local 1624 is only one of a handful of AFSCME Locals that has accomplished this.

We move into 2010 with 2176 AFSCME members ready to take on the challenges that confront us. Together we make things happen.