

District Council 5

Volunteer Activist Committee Program Policies

1. The District Council 5 Volunteer Activist Committee (VAC) shall be a standing committee:
 - (a) The VAC shall provide a structure by which rank and file members, their family and friends shall be made aware of the many opportunities they have to participate in activities sponsored by District Council 5.
 - (b) The activities of the VAC shall support District Council 5's continuous efforts to improve wages, working conditions, work opportunities, community partnerships and the quality of life of our members and their families.
 - (c) Through increased participation in District Council 5 sponsored activities the VAC will play a vital role in cultivating leadership and ensure continued success for District Council 5 and its affiliated Local Unions.

2. There shall be five Subcommittees of the VAC:
 - (a) Organizing:
 - i Participate in demonstrations, pickets, CORE Events and communicate with all workers in efforts to organize.
 - ii CORE (Community Organizing for Real Economics): Participate in District Council 5 sponsored activities that include:
 - Battling the underground economy in construction
 - Fighting to maintain affordable housing in urban development
 - Ending income inequality and its effect on industries and communities in which our members work and live
 - Enacting corrosion control policies that are good for the environment and our communities

 - (b) Political Action:

Participate in Political activities sponsored by District Council 5:

 - This include Get Out the Vote Phonebanks
 - Voter Registration Efforts
 - Political Lobby days
 - And various other events deemed political in nature

 - (c) Stewards:

Participate in Shop Steward training classes

 - Accept appointment as Shop Steward and follow DC 5 Bylaws

- Attend & report at Local Union Meetings

(d) IUPAT DC 5 Retiree Activist Committee:

- Participate in District Council 5 sponsored events of the RAC to carry out the spirit of the District Council and the Union, to aid and assist members and to promote the Social, Economic, Health and Political standing of its members.

(e) IUPAT DC 5 Women's Committee:

- Participate in District Council 5 sponsored events of the WG&AC to encourage recruitment, growth, retention and leadership of women in the Finishing Trades of District Council 5.

3. There shall only be two (2) classifications of participants in the VAC:

(a) Applicant:

- All who fill out and submit an application to the Administrator of the VAC shall be considered an Applicant
- Applicants shall indicate which, or how many, of the five (5) Subcommittees they would like to Volunteer.

(b) Member:

- i** Applicants shall achieve Member status by participating in three approved volunteer activities per calendar year:
 - Attending plenary meetings called by members of the VAC shall not be considered an Activity credit towards membership
- ii** Member must participate in three volunteer activities per year in order to maintain Member status in the VAC.

4. All Members of the VAC shall be empowered to call an event for the VAC:

(a) Any member calling an event must submit a VAC Activity Request Form to the Administrator of the VAC:

- i** The Activity Request must indicate the Overall Goal of Activity, indicate if Plenary Meeting(s) will be Necessary and Define the Plan of Action of the Event.
- ii** The member who calls the event shall act as Chairperson of the Event and shall be responsible for implementing the Plan to achieve the stated Goal and coordinate associated Activities.

