

From RN to UAN—Union Pow

Serving, representing, connecting and organizing RNs — from the bargaining unit, to SNAs, to the national union — was the focus of the national strategic planning meeting convened by UAN in late January.

23 UAN leaders — affiliate E&GW Chairs, the Executive Council and members of the Organizational Structure Committee worked for three days at the George Meany Center near Washington, D.C to assess current status, needs, resources and set organizational priorities.

Top Priorities:

- Devoting more resources to organizing at all levels
- Strengthening communication with and among members
- Creating a unified, interconnected structure
- ANA connections and representation
- Mobilizing, educating, and developing organizational capacity

Participants discussed how best to align all the resources and structures of the union — not just those of the UAN at the national level, but of the 28 affiliates as well. Collectively, participants learned, state affiliate and national resources are formidable, with the total of all state affiliate annual budgets topping \$55 million a year and staff numbering about 300.

AFL-CIO Department for Professional Employees President Paul E. Almeida discussed successful union models for structure and services and noted that professional and technical occupations comprise nearly half of all AFL-CIO union members today. UAN is an affiliate of the DPE, along with 24 other AFL-CIO affiliates.



UAN Executive Council Proposes Nati

NLA delegates meeting in March will decide on a resolution aimed at a closer alignment of top state affiliate and national union elected leaders. State E&GW chairs would be formally recognized as part of the

UAN leadership structure. UAN leaders have frequently consulted E&GW chairs for advice and information on issues, policy and structure; the resolution would ensure even closer ties. Resolution 1-05, submitted by the