CAP for Ceasefire – UAW Members Petition

Sign the Petition Here!

The UAW CAP (Community Action Program) is the political arm of our union – state CAP chapters endorse candidates running for office, while our national CAP representatives lobby politicians on issues of importance to our members. In 2022, our dues, along with voluntary contributions (V-CAP funds), funded the UAW and its CAP councils with a budget of \$28.5 million to spend on endorsed candidates and lobbying efforts.¹ As UAW members, we call on our CAP representatives to only endorse and allocate our dues and V-CAP contributions to candidates who publicly call for a ceasefire and vote accordingly on any relevant bills (e.g. Cori Bush's resolution 786).

Over the last three and a half months, the Palestinian people have been subject to a genocide (1, 2) perpetuated by the Israeli government and funded by billions in tax dollars of the United States and other Western nations with no restrictions. Over 24,000 people – including over 10,000 children under the age of 18 – have been murdered, hospitals and schools are being bombed, and Palestinians are facing <u>further mass death</u> from lack of medical care and <u>forced starvation</u>. There is no end to the brutality in sight. On Dec 1, following organizing efforts by countless members across the UAW, our UAW International leadership joined the call of many other unions and community groups to call for a ceasefire that would bring an end to this violence. Shawn Fain said it plainly: "Today, we find our government backing the destruction of lives in villages – not in Vietnam – but in Gaza. We hear the boosters of war claiming that 'real patriots' support the bombing. But we know in this room that there is nothing more patriotic than the pursuit of justice no matter where that takes us. Economic justice cannot end at the doors of the factory or worksite. Social justice cannot end at the border of our country. We must not be silent when it comes to the pursuit of peace and justice for working class people, the poor, for all of humanity."

As UAW members, we support this call and encourage our union to heed it where it is most meaningful to politicians: their endorsements and campaign treasuries. To

¹ Calculated <u>here</u>. There is no publicly available data on how much CAP spends -- this number is an estimate from all FY-2022 OLMS data reported from UAW national's political lobbying and various UAW CAP councils. The 2021 UAW <u>Financial Report</u> indicates a little over \$8 million in income from V-CAP funds and a little over \$2 in disbursements from this fund.

date, only 64 / 535 representatives across Congress have called for a ceasefire, with President Joe Biden unilaterally sending millions in our US tax dollars to support Israel's murderous regime. Our politicians have the ability to stop this violence. And while there is little we can do as individuals to stop a genocide thousands of miles away, as unionists we know there is strength in power as organized labor. We exercise this power now and urge our CAP representatives to join us. Labor shall stand for Palestine.

UAW Member Signatories

last updated: