

The 2025 legislative session and contract negotiations made one thing clear: working people and state workers currently lack the power to shape our own living and working conditions. Faced with a budget deficit, elected officials opted for budget cuts rather than raising taxes on the rich and the wealthiest corporations to invest in our state and the public good.

An inadequate state budget and a broken healthcare system kept us from winning what we deserve. Now is the time to use our power, as a union representing a workforce of 18,500, to change the political landscape and bring a Working People's Agenda to the center of Minnesota's electoral process.

We can do this by turning out thousands of people to participate in precinct caucuses and party conventions. Those who attend caucuses and become delegates to conventions are critical to any candidate seeking their party's endorsement. An organized bloc of people with a shared agenda can steer the direction of a party and decide who wins endorsements, especially in contested races.

Imagine 3,000 MAPE members bringing resolutions in support of fully funded state agencies, a 32-hour workweek, or MinnesotaCare for All to districts across the state, and telling candidates: if you want our support, you need to get on board.

Turning our collective power into real political influence will require member leaders who are ready to step up and take action in their communities. That is why we are launching a new organizing role: Civic Engagement Officer. We are aiming to have one Civic Engagement Officer in each of MAPE's 39 Locals. These member leaders will lead efforts to build local political power by organizing around precinct caucuses, conventions, and a shared Working People's Agenda.

Phase one of this work will run from now through February 3 and focus on turning out members to precinct caucuses and helping them become delegates to endorsing conventions. But this is just the beginning. The role will continue beyond February as part of a broader, long-term strategy to build worker power through sustained civic engagement.

The Civic Engagement Officer will be responsible for recruiting and preparing 20% of their Local to attend their precinct caucus and become delegates to state House and Senate endorsing conventions.

We are looking for members in all 39 Locals who are ready to:

- Learn and grow in the role. No prior organizing experience is required. What matters most is a willingness to try something new and a strong commitment to building collective power
- Attend monthly organizing trainings (a full-day session in August and December, and three to four hours per month in September, October, and November)
- Work with other Local officers to build a Local Organizing Committee
- Hold regular one-on-one meetings with Local members
- Coordinate and facilitate Local State Power Sessions on the state budget, healthcare, and the 32-hour workweek (September, October, November)
- Lead caucus trainings for their Local (December through January)

We are seeking [Union Power Project \(UPP\)](#) funding to provide eight hours of Lost Time per month August through December, for trainings and organizing work.

Every member has a role to play in building political power. Start by signing up to be a Civic Engagement Officer—or commit to taking part in precinct caucuses.

[Civic Engagement Officer Interest Form](#)
[Precinct Caucus Commitment Form](#)