

# Training & Education Fund News

SEIU HEALTHCARE 1199NW MULTI-EMPLOYER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FUND

FALL QUARTER, 2018

## Member Spotlight

MEET MIGUEL GIACOMO, PHARMACY TECHNICIAN  
SWEDISH MEDICAL CENTER, FIRST HILL



Miguel Giacomo has worked at Swedish Medical Center's First Hill campus for 21 years, although he began his career in IT after moving to the States from Guatemala. He considers himself to be a lifelong learner, having taught himself philosophy, the sciences, and four different languages over the years, but it was always his aspiration to return to school and earn his bachelor's degree. After talking with a co-worker who attended Western Governor's University (WGU) with financial and academic support from the Training Fund, Miguel decided that time had come to see his ambition through.

*"The Training Fund's Tuition Assistance, support from the Union, and flexibility of my employer removed the barriers that would have stopped me from going back to school. I'm three years from retirement, I just graduated with my Bachelor's, and I feel limitless. I should have done this years ago."*

In June of 2015, Miguel enrolled at WGU and three years of diligent discipline later, he graduated this July with a Bachelor's of Science in Health Informatics! We are honored to have been part of your journey, Miguel. Congratulations on achieving your dreams and inspiring others to do the same!

## Fall Success Tips

**GOING TO SCHOOL THIS FALL? HERE'S HOW TO CONNECT WITH YOUR REGIONAL EDUCATION NAVIGATOR WHO CAN ASSIST WITH YOUR ACADEMIC JOURNEY:**

**Use the Training Fund's staff directory on our website.**

- Visit [www.healthcareerfund.org](http://www.healthcareerfund.org)
- Select the "About Us" tab along the top of our homepage
- Click the "Staff Directory" option
- Look for staff with the Regional Education Navigator title, and match your employer's location to the region that Navigator serves (For example, UW Northwest Hospital and Medical Center is in North Seattle, so Patti K. would be your Navigator).

**Call our main phone line and ask our Member Services Representatives.**

Simply call the Training Fund at: (425) 255-0315 and let us know where you work and that you would like the name of your Regional Education Navigator.

**Use the Training Fund website's Live Chat feature.**

- Visit: [www.healthcareerfund.org](http://www.healthcareerfund.org)
- Select the Live Chat icon, located on the lower-right side of the homepage
- Enter the requested information and wait for the chat box to appear
- Ask our staff member responding to you who your Regional Education Navigator is and how to contact them about your career and educational questions

*PLEASE NOTE: Members are assigned a Regional Education Navigator once their application is received. Find the Training Fund application at [www.healthcareerfund.org](http://www.healthcareerfund.org).*

## ACCS Exam Prep offered to Training Fund RT's



The SEIU Healthcare 1199NW Multi-Employer Training Fund was excited to provide Adult Critical Care Specialty exam prep after Ramon Castellanos, Respiratory Therapist (RT) at PeaceHealth, St. Joseph's Medical Center, proposed how the seminar would help fulfill unmet workforce needs and applied for project approval through our Responsive Programming Fund. This labor/management-supported project helped those RTs who attended master aspects of respiratory care that are unique to the intensive care environment. It also aided our members in earning the ACCS credential at no additional expense, which is one of the requirements for attaining RT II status within the RT profession. The seminar took place in August.

*Do you have an idea for training in your work area? For more information about how to submit a Responsive Programming proposal for funding, please contact the Training Fund at: 425-255-0315.*

*Pictured L to R: Henry Mueller and Ramon Castellanos, RT's, PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center*

# New Employee Spotlight

A NEW ACADEMIC QUARTER BRINGS WITH IT NEW FACES TO THE TRAINING FUND AS WE CONTINUE TO PROVIDE OUR MEMBERS WITH SUPPORT AND SERVICES TO ADVANCE THEIR CAREERS AND EDUCATION



**DOROTHY ELDER,**  
*Member Services Representative*

Dorothy worked as a Senior Purchasing Agent for 18 years and a Warranty Administrator for two more before making the transition to a Member Services Representative at the Training Fund. Eager to transition into something more meaningful, Dorothy now enjoys

receiving Tuition Assistance as they work towards furthering their education and professional goals. Dorothy, a US Navy Veteran, mother of four (and grandmother to eight) loves to travel, especially on her motorcycle, with her granddaughter, to a different National Park each summer.



**RACHEL DRUMMOND,**  
*Member Services Representative*

Before joining the Training Fund, Rachel was looking for a workplace where she could help people and grow professionally. Having worked in the medical field and other service provider settings before, the Training Fund felt like the right place to combine her passion and skills. Rachel's current efforts

focus on processing vouchers and reimbursements for members, as well as reviewing applications and updating member accounts. A self-proclaimed unconventional nerd, Rachel enjoys Anime, superheroes and frequent visits to the Pacific Science Center; but is also a foodie who loves international travel.



**SUSAN O'CALLAGHAN,**  
*Project Manager - Grants and Partnerships*

After taking some time to be at home following the birth of her son, Susan decided to return to work when she learned about the Training's Fund Project Manager - Grants and Partnerships position opening. Susan brings years of experience from her tenure at Seattle Jobs Initiative where she managed compliance for subcontracting community-based organizations that provided career navigation to participants enrolled within the Seattle Colleges. She also managed federal contracts and provided technical assistance to employment and training programs across 10 states. In her new role, Susan will oversee workforce development and training projects that meet the needs of our members. Susan is a self-taught wedding cake baker, in-flight Kitchenaid mechanic, and takes every opportunity to get outside (in the dirt or snow)

with her nine-month old son, Ari.

## Training Fund Welcomes New Executive Director

LAURA HOPKINS OFFERS DIVERSE EXPERTISE AND SYSTEMIC INNOVATION



**LAURA HOPKINS**  
*Executive Director*

Laura comes to the Training Fund having most recently held the position of Vice President of Instruction at South Seattle College. However, she is an airplane mechanic by trade, and spent many years in the aviation/manufacturing sector before transitioning into education. In her new role as Executive Director of the Training Fund, Laura looks forward to supporting the systemic improvements as a means of better and more thoroughly serving our members. "I am very excited to be at the Training Fund. I enjoy working with people to try and create something bigger than any of us individually." When she isn't innovating professionally, Laura can be found spending time with her wife and three children in their West Seattle home and making time to travel when possible.

### SEIU Healthcare 1199NW Multi-Employer Training and Education Fund

Supporting innovative training, education and career development for healthcare workers that maximizes their talents, proactively meets industry needs, and ensures high-quality patient care through a diverse and skilled healthcare workforce.

#### Our Union and Employer Partners

