

Dear Fellow CWA Member,

Negotiations are ongoing between CWA & AT&T. In order for us to achieve a decent contract that addresses job security, healthcare, contract labor, pensions and many other issues important to **YOU** and **YOUR FAMILY**. It is imperative that each and every one of us get involved.

This round of negotiations is extremely crucial to all of us as CWA members. We have numerous issues that must be addressed. Your unwavering support and enthusiasm is extremely critical, enabling our bargaining team to achieve success at the table.

AT&T is a **VERY** profitable company thanks to your hard work. In return, all **we** want is a fair and equitable contract that provides improvements in wages, benefits and other conditions of employment.

The Member's Relief Fund provides a striker with a striker benefit of \$200.00 per week paid on the 15th day of a strike and \$300.00 per week beginning on the 29th day. These monies are not retroactive; however, you will get one additional strike fund check seven days after the conclusion of the strike.

Also, the IRS requires us to send you a 1099 form in any year where a striker receives \$600.00 or more in strike benefits. Strike benefits are taxed similar to the way interest on your savings account is taxed.

- ***In addition, to the weekly striker benefit, CWA's MRF insures that necessary medical and dental care will be provided to you and your dependents. For example if you or your family member get sick or require hospitalization it typically would be less expensive to cover the costs of each individual incident. After you receive the bill you will need to submit it to the local for reimbursement through the MRF.***
- ***In extreme medical cases CWA will pay your medical premium (COBRA) rather than reimburse you for "necessary" medical/dental care.***
- ***For Example: If you or one of your dependents has an ongoing or serious medical need i.e. (chemotherapy or dialysis) you must contact the community services committee as soon as possible or call the union hall, and submit a "Request for Medical Assistance. " Form.***