

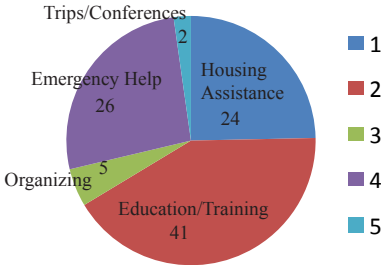
Career Training Tops Union Survey

LOCAL 768's just-completed member survey of spending priorities for the small share of dues dollars that is under the Local's discretion shows that a significant plurality believes career training is the best way dues dollars could be spent. Of the 224 members who participated in the survey, 41% want to see dues dollars put to that use, reflecting recent New York State mandates for new certifications for some of our titles. 26% and 24% want to see their money put toward helping members in dire situations, and toward assistance in obtaining housing, respectively. This reflects the fact that even with the recent contractual rais-

es, many of our members are finding it hard to make ends meet and want to extend charity to those who need it.

The membership is not willing to spend significant resources on organizing (shop steward training), but that support widens if we consider members' second and third priority choices. Steward programs go from 5% priority for a first choice to 15% when second and third choices are considered. Last in the minds of members are trips and conferences for union leaders, which score only a tiny 2% approval for a first choice and then receive only 6% in the wider pool of the combined second and third choices.

Top Priorities for Union Spending



2nd and 3rd Priorities



Membership Briefed on DSRIP

AT our last Membership Meeting, Jahmila Joseph, Assistant Associate Director of DC 37, discussed DSRIP, which is a financial incentive program to cut costs and streamline operations at HHC, intended to decrease in-patient time. She said that the program's goal is to reduce in-patient stays by 20% by targeting "repeat offenders" who may have chronic health conditions that can be treated on an outpatient basis. She said that HHC wants to redeploy 5% of its employees, and to shift work into some new titles, such as "Certified Asthma Edu-

cator." She noted that even though HHC takes care of 50% of the indigent care patients in the State of New York, it only receives \$100 million of an indigent care budget of \$3 billion provided by the State. This is why the Union needs every member to call our legislators and ask for more funding for HHC.

Brother Alex Leung called for more members to come forward as Local 768 Shop Stewards. Our goal is to have at least one Steward for each title in each workplace. Visit our website for information about upcoming Shop Steward classes.