



GLASTONBURY MLK
COMMUNITY
INITIATIVE

presents an in-person

Community Conversation

December 7, 2022

The New Faces of Organized Labor: The Shift to Service and Tech Workers

***“Our lives begin to end the day we be-
come silent about the things that matter”***

Today’s Community Conversation is generously supported by the Norma and Natale Sestero Fund administered by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

The Norma and Natale Sestero Fund was created through the estate of Natale and Norma Sestero, longtime residents of Glastonbury, with the goal to benefit the people and institutions of the town. The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving is the community foundation for the 29-town Greater Hartford region and is dedicated to improving the quality of life for area residents.

www.glastonburymkci.org



Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative

The Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, that was formed in 2001. GMLKCI's mission is to increase knowledge about, and understanding of, the philosophy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and to provide leadership and active engagement to build an inclusive community. We believe that bringing people together to discuss openly and honestly social justice issues will help build a more inclusive and tolerant community. As Dr. King noted, "**... whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly...**" and "**...the quality of a community is determined by how members of the community relate to one another.**"

The goal of this Community Conversation is to inform and inspire Glastonbury residents to become actively involved in social justice issues by discussing in an open and congenial manner issues which may divide us or bind us together as individuals, families and a community.

All of the social justice issues discussed during this evening's Community Conversation are addressed in light of Dr. King's principles.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

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Program

Welcome and Introduction

David O'Connor —GMLKCI

Speakers:

Michael Cass, Officer-in-Charge of the National Labor Relations Board for Hartford

Kate Dias, Connecticut Education Association

Bishop John Selders, Assistant Dean of Students at Trinity College

Pedro Zayas, SEIU Healthcare Workers Union, District 1199NE

Closing Remarks and Appreciation:

David O'Connor —GMLKCI

Please complete the program evaluation survey . Your opinions are important to our programming and fund-raising efforts.

Michael Cass

Michael Cass is the Officer in Charge of the Hartford Office of the National Labor Relations Board. Mr. Cass has a long history in working in labor relations, initially for the National Federation of Federal Employees. He joined the NLRB in Hartford in 1983 and became Officer in Charge in 2014. The National Labor Relations Board administers and enforces the National Labor Relations Act. It investigates and remedies unfair labor practices and conducts secret ballot elections to determine whether employees desire union representation.

Kate Dias

Kate Dias is the president of the Connecticut Education Association which advocates for legislation at the state and federal levels, represents the rights of teachers, and works with state policymakers to continue to elevate the teaching profession and promote public education. Prior to taking on this role, she was president of the Manchester Education Association, where her local association ran a mental health campaign focused on strengthening programming and support for students and staff, participated in Safe Schools health and safety monitoring, ran a successful Early Leadership Institute, and started a Union 101 program that shares the benefits of union membership with student teachers and interns. Kate began her career in an alternative education program, working with students at risk of dropping out.

Bishop John Selders

Bishop John Selders, who will moderate the panel discussion, is an ordained minister serving in the United Church of Christ, the Organizing Pastor of Amistad United Church of Christ in Hartford, Assistant Dean of Students and Coordinator of Community Standards at Trinity College and one of the leaders of Moral Monday CT, a grassroots statewide organization committed to a wide range of social justice issues. For 15 years, he served as Executive Director of Zezzo House (an 18-unit housing project) in Hartford. He has taught at the Yale Divinity School, the Andover Newton Theological School, The Seminary Consortium for Urban Pastoral Education and the Seattle University School of Theology and Ministry, and was the Dean of the Urban Ministry Track for The Anglican Divinity School.

Pedro Zayas

Pedro Zayas is the senior communications advisor for the New England Health Care Employees Union, SEIU 1199NE. Mr. Zayas supports workers building unions in health care settings, where women make up the majority of the workforce. Often called “my favorite union” by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., District 1199 has a long activist tradition representing some 29,000 health care providers in Connecticut and Rhode Island. SEIU 1199NE members recently won union contracts for nursing home workers, mental health direct care providers, cooks, case managers, therapists, doctors, maintenance staff, home care workers, and hospital staff, while continuing to advocate for a robust network of state and community-based health care services for all.

The Town of Glastonbury Human Relations Commission is available to assist any resident who, because of race, color, age, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or intellectual, mental or physical disability, has been discriminated against in a manner prohibited by the laws of the State of Connecticut or the Town of Glastonbury. For additional information visit the Town's website or contact the Commission through the Human Resources Department, (860) 652-7501.



Thank you for joining us for tonight's program. Your attendance encourages the work we do as members of the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative to make Glastonbury a more inclusive place to live and visit.

While all of our programs are free, we are dependent on you for financial support. The Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative is a 501(c)(3) corporation and all donations are tax deductible. **Please consider supporting our efforts with a financial contribution.** You can send your tax deductible contributions to:

**GMLKCI Treasurer
62 Chimneysweep Hill Road
Glastonbury, Connecticut 06033**

Also please consider supporting the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative through the Amazon Smiles program.

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You can also support GMLKCI by using the DONATE button on our web site—www.glastonburymlkci.org

The Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative would like to thank our Sponsors, who make this work possible

