



IBEW 2213 NEWSBEAT

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IN SOLIDARITY



Scholarship Spotlight

Hi. My name is Avery Paige. I just finished my first year at The University of Buffalo and I loved every second of it! I had the best roommates, on the best floor, in the best dorm. I made new friendships that I know will last a lifetime and I even had great professors and surprisingly really enjoyed my classes (well maybe not Physics-but that's another story). I shared many of my new experiences, but of course not everything, with my mother through Snapchat, texts, and Facetime. So when she shared with me the opportunity to apply for this Union Scholarship I decided to go for it. What an awesome Union perk!

Then I started thinking about the title. I mean, I know the Union has affected my mom's life in a huge way but how had it actually affected mine? I realize that her salary has been bargained for by the Union and of course that directly affects me but what else? So I had to dig deeper. I was always aware of certain aspects of the Union, especially during contract negotiation and strike time but I needed to know more. This took a little pondering on my part and a few chats with my mom and Gram. I was born into pro-union family. My Grampa Al was a teamster for over 35 years. My Grandma Peggy worked for Verizon for over 30 years and was an active member of IBEW 2213. Even though my Dad is not a union member, those are his parents, so he grew up in a union household and totally supports my mom and her union. My mom has also worked for Verizon and has been a member of IBEW 2213 since she started way back in 1994! The Union always is working for the employees. Standing up for them and making sure they're treated fairly is what they're about. That's huge! Job security, medical, dental and vision benefits, retirement, vacation, and so much more are such important points that the Union always fight for. These are all things that DO directly affect me. My mom knows when a new contract is agreed upon, her job is safe. They can't transfer her, fire her for unjust reasons, or demote her.



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