

For Immediate Release

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Working Families Honor Local Workers Across Wisconsin on Workers Memorial Day

[MILWAUKEE, WI, April 26]— On April 28, Workers Memorial Day, working people come together to remember and honor those who were hurt or killed on the job and renew our struggle for safe workplaces and good jobs for all workers. In cities, towns, union halls, at memorials and commemorations around Wisconsin, workers, union members, faith leaders and community members are gathering to honor our brothers and sisters who have lost their lives on the job.

Each and every day in this country, an average of 13 workers die on the job as a result of workplace injuries—women and men who go to work, never to return home to their families and loved ones. In 2015, more than 4,800 workers were killed on the job.

But that is only a part of the deadly toll.

Each year, between 50,000 and 60,000 workers die from occupational diseases caused by exposures to toxic chemicals and other health hazards. Many workers are exposed to toxic chemicals like silica and beryllium, and face other serious safety hazards at their workplaces.

The most recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that 104 workers were killed in Wisconsin in 2015, and many more suffered from preventable, occupational diseases.

"Workplace safety should be a right for every worker, and we will fiercely fight for workplace protections for all," said **Phil Neuenfeldt, President of the Wisconsin AFL-CIO**. "Hardworking men and women dedicate themselves to their jobs every day and deserve to return home safely to their loved ones at the end of the day. Yet too many families in Wisconsin are left to mourn their loved ones who have died from job injuries and illnesses that are totally preventable."

"Too many elected leaders and business groups block commonsense workplace protections that would keep workers safe on the job," said **Stephanie Bloomingdale, Secretary-Treasurer of the Wisconsin AFL-CIO**. "As a nation, we must stop putting profits and politics over the safety and health of workers, too many of which continue to suffer injuries and even death on the job."

Worker Memorial Day Commemorations in Wisconsin

Madison

Construction Workers 2017 Memorial

Wednesday, April 26

2:00 p.m. Hard hat procession from Monona Terrace to St Patrick's Church

3:00 p.m. Non-denominational memorial service at St. Patrick's Church, 404 E. Main Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53703

Rhineland

Thursday, April 27

5pm-5:30pm

Pioneer Park, Oneida Ave., Rhineland

There will be observance of fallen workers through poetry, song, and a bell ceremony. Bring a chair.

Madison

Friday, April 28

12:00 p.m.

Wisconsin State Capitol, Assembly Parlor

Press conference to honor area workers killed on the job and to call for better safety regulations to help protect future generations of workers

Milwaukee

Friday, April 28

4:00 p.m. Memorial Service at Our Lady of Lourdes, 3722 S. 58th Street, 53220

5:00 p.m. Dinner at the Milwaukee Area Labor Council, 633 S. Hawley Rd., 53213. Dinner tickets are \$6 at the door with proceeds benefiting WisCOSH and the Workers Memorial Day Fund

Eau Claire

Workers Memorial Day Observance Event

Friday, April 28th, 2017

4 pm - 6:30 pm -- Social Hour, Supper and Solidarity (Hot beef, brown beans, cheesy potato casserole, chips, salads provided - Please bring a dessert to share)

6:15 pm - 6:30 pm: Speaking Program

Labor Temple

2233 Birch Street

Eau Claire, WI 54703

La Crosse

Workers Memorial Day Observance Event

Friday, April 28

5:00 PM

Green Island Park

2312 7th Street South

La Crosse, WI 54601

Wausau

Friday, April 28th

5:30pm

Workers' Memorial Site*: 388 River Dr., Wausau

Local legislators, unions and family members of the deceased have been invited to speak.

*Rain site is at Wausau Labor Temple: 318 S. 3rd Ave., Wausau

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