

Next Wave Talking Points

Building support in our locals for a Next Wave program means gaining knowledgeable allies in the effort to identify and activate young AFSCME members. Here are some useful talking points to use when reaching out to your local leadership:

- 52 percent of our members are over the age of 50 and will be eligible to retire within the next 10 years. This exodus will leave a huge leadership void and loss of institutional memory.
- The future of our organization depends upon our ability to identify and activate new young member leaders to fill the gap when seasoned activists move on.
- Sometimes, local meetings aren't the best point of entry into our union for a fledgling member. Next Wave hosts fun, purposeful events to draw young people in and get them excited about AFSCME. They emerge prepared to enter our local energized and inspired to be active participants.
- Many young union members have "inherited" their five day work week, health benefits and safe working conditions. Through Next Wave, we can introduce our newest members to the value and role of their union.
- During this election's primary, 6.5 million young people voted. This is an important constituency that needs to be educated, mobilized and organized!

