

# 2024/2025 WINTER NEWSLETTER

**President Don Todd**

**Executive Vice President Miller T. Rodgers**



## Letter from President Don Todd

What a year 2024 has been for the Illinois Alliance! While the National Election results were not in our favor, we sent all of our retiree champions from Illinois back to the US Congress including Reps Budzinski, Schakowsky, and Sorensen who all accepted Retiree Hero Awards from the Alliance this year. We also held the Illinois General Assembly super majority of pro-retiree and labor legislators in the House and Senate.

It is more important now than ever to mobilize seniors in Illinois. By the year 2030, Illinois' senior population will boom by nearly three-quarters of a million people and become 25% of the population. The alliance needs to grow and meet the challenge of organizing these folks now. We have major fights on our hands to undo Tier-2 pensions, support our home care workers, and protect Social Security and Medicare.

The Illinois Alliance thanks all of our Sustaining Organizations and Affiliates for continuing to partner in this fight. Our mission to secure economic security for every Illinoisan is far from over and we are proud to have you all standing beside us.

Solidarity Forever,



President Don Todd and Members of AFSCME subchapter 86 presented Representative Nikki Budzinski with the Alliance Retiree Hero Award. We also celebrated the Anniversaries of Social Security and Medicare with the Representative and the IL AFL CIO in 2024



Representative Jan Schakowsky Celebrates the Anniversaries of Social Security and Medicare with the Illinois Alliance, Citizen Action Illinois, SEIU, and CFL

# Senior Power Lunch 2024



Winners of the 2024 Senior Power Celebration Awards

The 2024 Senior Power Celebration was our best one yet! The annual fundraiser was held in Chicago at Chicago Teachers Union Foundation Hall. We presented William McNary with the Frank and Beatrice Lumpkin Award, Illinois State Senator Dave Koehler with the Jerry Prete Award, and Illinois Representative Nabeela Syed with the Retiree Champion Award. Nearly 200 guests were in attendance and were honored to be joined by Special Guests US Rep Schakowsky and US Senator Dick Durbin. Our National Alliance Executive Director, Rich Fiesta presented both with Retiree Hero Awards!

We raised nearly \$38,000 for the Illinois Alliance! Thank you to all of our sponsors and supporters of this event!



Senator Durbin and Rep Schakowsky with National Executive Director Rich Fiesta

## Events in 2025

The Illinois Alliance has several big events coming up next year. Stay Tuned to Your Inbox for More Info About:

### **Spring Tea/Breakfast in Central Illinois to Celebrate Older Americans Month in May.**

### **2025 Senior Power Celebration**

### **2025 Biennial Convention**

Affiliates will be eligible to participate in the 2025 Biennial Convention so long as their dues are paid on time--  
March 31st, 2025

The Illinois Alliance just updated our bylaws and officers of the board will serve two year terms now instead of four. Due to this change, all five officers will be elected at the 2025 convention. We have also increased the number of labor director seats from 10 to 12.

Executive Director Krystle Able will be in contact with affiliates regarding all of these events.

**Krystle can be reached at**  
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Call or email her to set up your 2025 annual affiliate visits!