VOLUME 76 • ISSUE I

https://regionl.uaw.org/local400/

JANUARY-MARCH 2023

GEARING UP FOR 2023 NEGOTIATIONS



from the PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Chris **DILBERT**, JR.

Dear Local 400 Brothers and Sisters,

want to thank all of you for allowing
me the opportunity to represent this
membership; a membership, in my
opinion, that is second to none. We are
strong and supportive UAW Brothers and
Sisters, with the ability to make our voices
heard. Your voice, in our democratic
society, is your vote. Please continue
to vote in every election and contract
ratification.

In the coming year, we look forward to working with Utica Community Schools Clerical and Flex-N-Gate, Shelby as those member contracts soon expire. Planning for negotiations in the UCS TOP unit has been ongoing for months and we will soon be in discussions with Utica Community Schools.

Flex-N-Gate, Shelby will soon be getting contract resolution forms in preparation for their negotiations. Contract resolution forms are how members request their proposed changes to the contract. Please remember that you must be a member in good standing to engage in activities paid for by Union dues. This includes attending unit meetings to discuss resolutions and voting on ratification of any tentative agreement reached during negotiations.

The respective bargaining teams will work diligently to achieve the gains set

forth by the received contract resolutions.

The UAW and the Big 3 will also enter contract negotiations later this year. Resolution forms for all national bargaining strategies have been turned in to the respective Resolution Committees in preparation for the Special Convention in Detroit, March 27-29, 2023.

The Special Convention, through your elected delegates, will establish bargaining strategies for future negotiations throughout the UAW.

By the time this newsletter reaches your doorstep (or shortly after), we should know the run-off results for our UAW International Executive Board President and Vice President. I hope everyone voiced their opinion and cast their vote. Our IEB will now be established through 2026.

Regardless of whom the victors are, it is more imperative than ever that we come together as one voice of Solidarity to ensure our strength in the future. The companies we work for already rejoice in any division they can create. We cannot continue to feed that destruction from within our own ranks. Hold your leadership accountable, but stand together in *UNITY!*

The beginning of the year has been busy. We have held elections for vacant Local Executive Board and Election Committee seats. We have cast our vote for the International Executive Board and now we have contracts to negotiate. The



Negotiations with the Big 3 automakers are looming, and the possibility of a strike is real.

You should always prepare yourself financially to deal with the hard times that may come with such actions. Even if you are not directly employed by the Big 3 but may be a supplier to a company that goes on strike, you need to get your finances in order to plan for possibilities that you may be laid off for a while due to lack of customer needs. Just a reminder of the things you should do/not do to prepare:

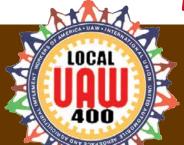
- ➤ Save money from now through Big 3 contract negotiations (CBA ends 9/2023)
- Do not make any large purchases or plan big trips vacations.
- Budget for regular expenses and STICK to it put the rest away!
- Let family and friends know what is coming so they understand your reluctance to spend.

Local is alive and well.

Your Local leadership is always ready to serve the members. Active members please continue to follow the proper protocol when filing a complaint. Always start with your building leadership and, if needed, the issue will be elevated to the next level.

Retiree members, we are always here to help you. You can call the Local direct with your questions.

Please continue to stand together in Solidarity.



REPRESENTING UAW MEMBERS from...

- Utica Trim
- Chesterfield Trim
- ♦ Romeo Engine
- ♦ Ford Highland Park
- ♦ Yanfeng USA, Highland Park
- MPG Hourly
- **◆** Learning Designs, Inc.
- **♦** Wes Pro Fleet Switchers
- ◆ ABM Romeo
- Utica Schools Clerical
- MPG Salary
- ♦ Imag America
- **♦** Bridgewater Interiors
- ◆ ABM MI Proving Grounds
- **◆ Utica Schools Maintenance**
- **◆ Union Sorters of America**
- **♦ Flex-N-Gate, Shelby**



from the FINANCIAL SECRETARY-TREASURER

David MURRAY

NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2022 & JANUARY 2023

Balance as of Nov. 1, 2022 \$640,120.78

INCOME

11/01/2022 - 01/31/2023

11/01/2022 - 01/31/2023	
Regular Dues	343,831.98
Bonus Dues	297.97
Initiations	3,520.00
Conference Hotel Refund	34.12
Retired Workers Chapter	9,833.00
Retiree Club	2,485.00
Rent	400.00
Community Service	500.00
Exchange	2,000.00
Interest	<u>409.40</u>
TOTAL INCOME	363,311.47

DISBURSEMENTS

11/01/2022 - 01/31/2023

11/01/2022	01/01/2020
Wages	89,601.81
Lost Time	4,234.16
Reimbursed Costs	2,602.29
Payroll Withholding	(27,549.59)
Payroll withholding forwa	rd 27,852.68
Payroll Tax Employer	7,191.27
Arbitration Fees	55.50
Bank Charge	0.80

Building Improvement -	
50% Hall Furnace Deposit	
Christmas Party	
Conference - FOC March	1,500.00
Donations	
Flowers - Funeral Arrangements 20	22 2,358.50
Insurance - Comprehensive	3,964.00
Insurance - Employee Benefits	4,187.45
Insurance - Union Liability	8,991.00
Insurance - Workmans Comp	
Local Motion Newspaper	8,346.23
Maintenance & Repairs	7,918.12
Pension Allocations	
Per Capita Taxes -	
October-December adj Rebate	210,001.30
Recreation - Basketball,	
Bowling & Softball	1,996.00
Refund Dues	
Retired Workers Chapter	
Retiree Club	
Supplies	1,135.28
Taxes - Winter 2022 Real Property	
Telephone & Internet	
Utilities	
Exchange	2,091.88
Total Disbursements	
Total to Account for at	-
January 31, 2023	\$596,765.01
ALLOCATION of CASH	ACCETC
Commercial Checking - Comerica	
- COMMERCIAL CHECKING - COMERCA	06 1.060.61

Total Cash Assets	\$593,765.01
Money Market Account - Chase	<u>202,122.94</u>
Money Market Account - Comerica.	369,968.80
Petty Cash	345.00
Deposit on Hand	
Commercial Checking - Comerica	' '

FUND BALANCES

General	\$497,459.97
Education	37,513.92
Recreation	3,146.11
Retired Members	2,973.74
Community Service Fund	1,270.07
New Member Orientation	6,001.00
Local 400 Retiree Club	19,027.41
Retired Workers Chapter	<u>26,372.79</u>
Total of All Funds	\$593,765.01

STATEMENT of ASSETS, LIABILITIES and NET WORTH

Total Cash Assets	\$593,765.01
Net of Rebate Per Capita Tax -	63,233.35
Affiliates and CAP	2,961.38
Accounts Payable - General	
Total Current Liabilities	(78,694.73)
Net Cash Worth	\$515,070.28
Fixed Assets: Building & Land, 50595 Mound Rd., Utica, Ml	\$512 <i>4</i> 35 <i>4</i> 0
Furniture & Fixtures at Cost	. ,
Total Fixed Assets	

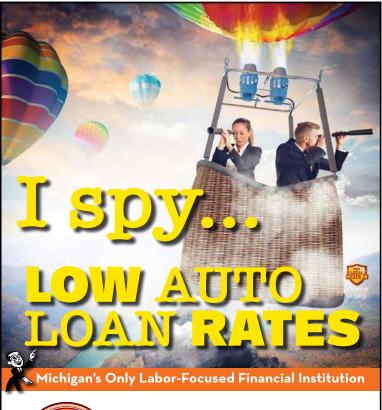
GRAND TOTAL NET WORTH

at January 31, 2023 \$1,100,304.55

Fraternally Submitted by

David Murray

Financial Secretary/Treasurer





*New money only, loans currently at THE LOCAL credit union are not eligible. Promotion is subject to change without notice. THE LOCAL credit union is federally insured by the NCUA.

THELOCALcreditunion.com 800.974.6478



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TBD	Vice President
David Murray	Financial Secretary/Treasurer
Jim Sorgi	Recording Secretary
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Denise (Lavolia) Taylor	Chairperson/Ford Highland Park
Erik Emmons	
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Pat Lewis	Chairperson/Bridgewater Interiors

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POSTMASTER, send address changes to: UAW LOCAL 400, 50595 Mound Rd., Utica, MI • Phone (586) 731-6270





from the RECORDING SECRETARY

Jim SORGI

A Personal Note

I'd like to take a moment to thank everyone for all of the cards, calls, and condolences on the passing of my brother, Joe Sorgi. This is a very sad time for myself and our family, but all of the prayers and kindness shown by so many really uplifted all of us.

Regarding Retiree Benefits

Retired Workers Chapter Chairperson Mary Ann Calabro and I have scheduled a meeting with Optum – the new prescription drug program administrator for all of the UAW retirees covered under the Medical Benefits Trust (VEBA). The meeting will be at 10:00 a.m. on April 19, 2023 at UAW Local 400, during the regularly scheduled Retired Workers Chapter Meeting.

Representatives from the Trust and Blue Cross/Blue Shield Medicare Advantage will be there as well.

This meeting is being held to address any and all concerns/questions with our new pharmacy program. We still intend to hold our annual Health Fair in the fall with all of the providers to address any changes for 2024.

Recent Ford Motor Company Retirees

The National Employee Service Center (NESC) has been very slow in sending the retirement confirmations to the Medical Benefits Trust (VEBA). However, you are encouraged to call the Trust at 866-637-7555 to see if the confirmation has been received.

If not, request that they create a "ticket" for which they can then reach out to the NESC for the confirmation. Once the Trust receives the confirmation, you will be able to select your health care plan retro-active to your date of retirement.

We are well aware of the problems this has caused and we sympathize with all who are affected. We are doing all we can to assist with dealing with urgent issues regarding scheduled surgeries and labs, medications and supplies, and other difficulties. Please understand, however, that the NESC and *not the UAW* is responsible for these delays. We continue to apply pressure to correct these problems immediately!

As always, I wish all of the members of Local 400 and their families health and good fortune.

Remember: Start by doing what's necessary, then do what's possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible.

Contact Information for Optum

2023 Medical Plan

Blue Cross Blue Shield Traditional Care Network Blue Cross Blue Shield Enhanced Care PPO Members in HMOs:

- Blue Care Network (BCN)
- Humana
- Health Alliance Plan (HAP)

Contact Information

855-409-0219, TTY711 8:00a.m.-8:00p.m. (local time, M-F) uawtrustpdp.com

2023 Medical Plan

United Healthcare Medicare Advantage

Contact Information

844-320-5021, TTY711 8:00a.m.-8:00p.m. (local time, M-F) retiree.uhc.com/uawtrust Click on Pharmacies & Prescriptions

2023 Medical Plan

Blue Cross Blue Shield Medicare Advantage

Contact Information

855-856-0537, TTY 711, 24 /7 bcbsm.com/uawtrust Login, Click on My Coverage, Prescription

'Battle of the Locals' raises \$1,250



On September 12, 2022, Local 400 participated in the annual "Battle of the Locals" hosted by The Local Credit Union (UAW Local 228). Labor unions from all over come to participate in games to win the coveted trophy and a charity donation to the victor's choice. This year, Local 400 was the Champion!

Thanks to the generosity of The Local Credit Union and Mahalo Technologies Inc. (the app creator for the Credit Union), Local 400 was presented checks totaling \$1,250 to donate to Friends of the Children-Detroit, a long-term professional mentoring program specializing in working with youth who have faced a lot of adversity.

We look forward to competing again next year!



Executive Board Member-at-Large

JANUARY 4-6, 2023 · RESULTS

E-BOARD MEMBER-AT-LARGE:

CARLOS MCDANIEL 10 Elected

Tryphena Koger.....4

Blank.....0 Void.....0

ELECTION COMMITTEE: Ramona Sowle ACTING COMMITTEE:

Jim Sorgi, Recording Secretary Therese Jean, Bookkeeper



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March is Women's History Month. In this issue of the Local Motion, we honor women who have faced incredible adversity and still had the strength and leadership to fight for the advancement of the Labor Movement. These women, and thousands more, continue to be an example to all in the fight for workers' rights and how sheer determination and tenacity to push for what is right can achieve safer working conditions, better benefits, and strength in numbers.

Jessie de la Cruz (1919-2013)

"It doesn't take courage. All it takes is standing up for what you believe in."

On September 5, 2013, Jessie de la Cruz passed away at age 93. A field worker since the age of five, Jessie knew poverty, harsh working conditions, and the exploitation of Mexicans and all poor people. Her response was to take a stand.



She joined the United Farm Workers union in 1965 and, at Cesar Chavez's request, became its first woman recruiter. She also participated in strikes, helped ban the crippling short-handle hoe, became a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, testified before the Senate, and met with the Pope. She continued to be a political activist until her death in 2013.

(www.Zinnedproject.org)

Hattie Canty (1923-2012)

"Coming from Alabama," Canty observed, "this seemed like the civil rights struggle . . . the Labor Movement and the Civil Rights Movement, you cannot separate the two of them."

Hattie Canty, a labor activist in Las Vegas, Nevada has often been called "one of the greatest strike leaders in U.S. history. Canty grew up in Alabama before moving to California, marrying and starting a family. Following high school, she married and had two children. When she and her husband divorced, Canty



moved with her children to San Diego where she worked as a housekeeper and cook.

By 1961, Canty had remarried and moved with her family to Las Vegas. She stayed home to take care of ten children while her husband worked for Silver State Disposal. In 1972, she went to work as a maid at the Thunderbird Hotel. After the death of her husband in 1975, Canty was left at age forty-one to raise the eight children still living at home. Now the sole support for her family, she worked as a janitor and then as a maid in private homes. Needing health insurance for herself and her children, she found employment in 1979 at the new Maxim hotel-casino, first as a maid and then as a uniformed attendant.

Canty became involved in the Culinary Workers Union 226, an affiliate of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees International Union. She was elected to the executive board in 1984, the year that Local 226 staged a successful 75-day walkout against Las Vegas casinos in an effort to gain better health insurance benefits for culinary workers. She wanted to ensure that all workers would receive living wages in order to support themselves and their families. She also sought to integrate the union and see minorities attain higher level jobs.

(Jae Jones, April 13 2020; https://blackthen.com)

Velma Hopkins (1909-1996)

"I know my limitations and I surround myself with people who I can designate to be sure it's carried out. If you can't do that, you're not an organizer."

Velma Hopkins was a member of Local 22 of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers of America-CIO, an integrated union led primarily by African American women. In the 1940s, she helped mobilize 10,000 workers to take to the streets of Winston-Salem, NC, as part of an attempt to unionize the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. "The union demanded the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. improve conditions for its black workers, who endured oppressive heat and dangerous tobacco dust in their segregated work areas." (AFL-CIO)

Ms. Hopkins and Local 22 gained notoriety for its vision of equality and inclusion. Unfortunately, the union was ultimately not successful due to the power of Reynolds' anti-unionism campaign.

Even though the organizing efforts failed to crush the tobacco giant, "Local 22 proved to be a model for other interracial labor movements that were to follow in the South during the 1940's" (AFL-CIO North Carolina) influencing a generation of civil rights activists.



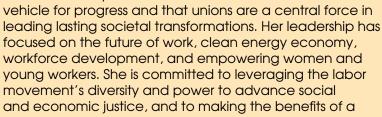
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

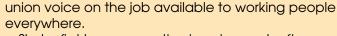
Elizabeth H. Shuler (1970-)

"I stand on the shoulders of those who came before me - women whose dedicated leadership in our unions, in our workplaces, have moved all of us forward."

Elizabeth H. Shuler is president of the AFL-CIO, a federation of 58 unions, 12.5 million working people across all sectors of the U.S. economy. She is the first woman to hold the office of president in the history of the labor federation.

A visionary leader and longtime trade unionist, Shuler believes the labor movement is a powerful





Shuler first became active in union work after college. Her first job was as a union organizer for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 125, working on a campaign to organize clerical workers at PGE. She became a lobbyist for the IBEW in 1997, representing the union before the Oregon Legislature. One of her chief accomplishments for the union was the defeat of a bill (promoted by the Enron Corp.) to deregulate Oregon's electricity market. She also taught in the union's Construction Organizing Membership Education and Training (COMET) and Membership Education and Mobilization for Organizing (MEMO) union organizing programs. Shuler also served on the State of Oregon Management-Labor Advisory Committee on Workers' Compensation, and was appointed an IBEW delegate to the Northwest Oregon Central Labor Council.

In 1998, she led the AFL-CIO's successful effort to defeat California Proposition 226, which would have denied dues check-off to public employees belonging to unions and required all union members in the state to annually give their assent before any portion of their dues could be used for political purposes.



Results of the ELECTION COMMITTEE ELECTION held on January 11-13, 2023

ELECTION COMMITTEE & ALTERNATES...



In Solidarity, Jim Sorgi, Recording Secretary, UAW Local 400





from the RETIRED WORKERS CHAPTER CHAIR

Mary Ann **Calabro**

Welcome Local 400 Retiree,

It's my pleasure to say welcome and I hope you are all doing fantastic with the Grace of God.

For those who are traveling during the winter months, please stay safe!

I would like to thank all those who made it to our Annual 2023 Retiree Christmas Party. It was wonderful to see some new surprising faces and some that haven't been there for a while. I wish I could have spent more time to enjoy my retirees more, but duty calls.

Let us give our farewell wishes to our former Vice President and President, Johnny Verellen, who was promoted to be part of our UAW International staff. The International made a very wise choice in promoting a very knowledgeable Union officer to this level, where Johnny will succeed in his next journey of the UAW. I know personally, he's already missed by our Retiree Chapter and will be a great loss to our Local. Thank You, Johnny (my son)!

Once again, UAW Region 1 is offering

their Retiree Seminar at Black Lake. We are looking for two retirees who would like to make a commitment to attending. The Seminar is from Monday, May 15 to Thursday, May 18, 2023.

You are welcome to take the bus from Region 1 (if space is still available) or you may drive your own vehicle (mileage paid per UAW Local 400 Bylaws). Local 400 will cover the registration fee for the two UAW retirees, but if you bring a spouse or guest, the full registration cost of that spouse/guest (\$350) will need to be paid by the member prior to registration. Meals and room are included.

There will be a guest speaker(s) Tuesday and Wednesday morning. Members attending should bring extra money if they wish to participate in a day trip to the casino and/or Bingo. Free amenities of the campus include a pool, basketball court, hiking/biking trails among the beautiful landscape, and much more.

You are more than welcome to find another Union retiree to room with if you choose to.

Please contact me... Mary Ann Calabro at 586-322-6323 for details and a true commitment. I need an answer ASAP because there is a deadline to register!



TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE

- Wednesday, April 19, 2023, 10:00 a.m. Guest speaker: UAW Medical Benefits Trust Optum RX
- Wednesday, May 17, 2023, 10:00 a.m. Working on guest speaker
- Wednesday, June 21, 2023, 10:00 a.m. Working on guest speaker
- July NO MEETING
- August-September-October: TBD
- November, Annual Health Fair (Tentative)
- Tuesday, December 12, 2023 (Tentative)
- Annual 2023 Christmas Party, Mirage



Let us take a moment and pray for our Union brothers and sisters who are ill in their time of need...

Father God, we pray for all those who are facing sickness in their bodies.

We ask that you would restore their health, soothe their pain, and ease their worry.

Please touch those with Your healing hand, give them the comfort, and peace as they wait to get through it all.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

IN WEWORIA

The Officers, Representatives and members of Local 400 extend their deepest sympathy to the families of our recently deceased members.

CHESTERFIELD

Joseph Carson Alessandro "Alex" Fragnoli

Letisha Harper Jean Hooper Robert Lamb Angeline Melton

Connie Paternoster

ROMEO

Dan Bryeans James Hedlund Joseph Sorgi, Jr. Gary Wynne

UTICA

Jack Boyd

Warren Britz (January 2022)

Ken Duncil Robert Doctor Dannie Hiner Scott Hull

Nelson Neal (August 2022)

Charles Turk David Wagner

Please keep the family and friends of these departed members in your thoughts and prayers.

OLV

Are you interested in becoming more involved in YOUR UAW?

UAW Local 400 is looking for some motivated individuals to make up our standing committees and our Organizing Committee. If you or someone you know is interested in being involved in one or more of these, please contact Recording Secretary Jim Sorgi at... jsorgi@uawlocal400.com or 586.731.6270, ext. 23

- Union Label
- Education
- Conservation & Recreation
- Community Services
- Civil Rights
- Citizenship & Legislative
- Consumer Affairs
- Women's Committee
- Veteran's Committee
- Organizing Team





from the ROMEO ENGINE **CHAIRPERSON** Jeremy RICKERT

Brothers and Sisters,

Romeo Engine Plant production has ended and we have started taking machines and other components out to send to other locations.

We have secured spots for our remaining members at nearby Sterling Axle or Van Dyke plant. Our first group of production employees started at Sterling on January 3rd and are now members of Local 228.

We then had some trades (2 Electricians, 1 Pipefitter, 4 Tool and Die Makers) and one production (RTBU) start at the Van Dyke Plant.

We are also sending a group (already there as you read this) on Monday March 6th of 40 production. They are now members of Local 2280.

We have a little over 100 more Production members still on TLO while awaiting placement there also. There are also just under 40 trades left awaiting the transfer to Van Dyke (Local 2280).

I am extremely thankful to be a part of this great Union and thankful to have had all our members find other

plants without any indefinite layoffs!

However, that doesn't come without sacrifice. Once those members are placed, our Local

will take on more financial hardships from the loss of our dues. Over the last few decades, Local 400 has continued to be attacked by Ford Motor Company, by closing location after location in this great Local!

I stay awake at night hoping and praying that this next set of negotiations will give this Local new life. I know that our UAW leaders understand the hardships we've continually faced on the backs of our members. So, Brothers and Sisters, please understand that we must fight for those gains that we want and that nothing will be handed to us.

Please plan for next September, when our CBA expires, and our leaders look to secure our future. Save as much as possible for the possibility of a strike.

Wherever our paths lead us, remember that we are Brothers and Sisters and that we must have each other's backs in order to stay united and fight for what we have been owed by Ford Motor Company for far too long.



from the YANFENG HIGHLAND PARK **CHAIRPERSON** Mark 'Hemp' HEMPILL

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Everyone that was on layoff has been called back to work, and we are now hiring more members at Yanfeng Highland Park facility.

We all know that the DS program is coming to an end soon and we will only have the WS program. We, the Union and the Company, are working hard to put more work into Yanfeng Highland Park facility.

We need all hands on deck to make sure we are producing quality parts for our customer, Warren Truck. Our delivery time has improved

dramatically in the last month and our quality has also improved.

I feel very confident that we will get new work at Highland Park.

We had a lot of changes in our Local Union committees. I'm working hard at making sure we have strong and knowledgeable committees.

We would also like to thank the members who signed up for classes at the Region.

FOLLOW US...



UAW Local 400's official FACEBOOK page:



https://www.facebook.com/groups/UAWLocal400/

UAW Local 400's website: http://region1.uaw.org/local400/

ATTENTION: All Retiring UAW EMPLOYEES

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You can call or email Recording Secretary Jim Sorgi at 586-731-6270, ext. 23 or jsorgi@uawlocal400.com to make those changes. You may also supply a personal email address for further communication if you wish.

Please forward this to any active or retired member who may not be receiving this Local Motion so they too can correct their information with the Local. Thank you!

mmmmmmm



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SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Every year, we get asked about scholarships and other financial aid available for our members and for their children/grandchildren. Some are available only for the member; others for dependents also. Each has their own eligibility requirements and deadlines. Please read all of the information carefully and revisit the sites often for when they are available and what the deadlines are.

Here are several opportunities for such financial assistance:

https://www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships

https://www.uawford.org/edtp-eeoc

https://learnmore.scholarsapply.org/rouge/

https://www.uawford.org/_files/ugd/90c1b3_ e94bb869605c4241a659dbfb1812a23d.pdf

Other sites to visit to find financial assistance:

https://www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships.aspx

https://www.fastweb.com/

https://www.scholarships.com/