

KEN KURZWEIL SOCIAL JUSTICE RECOGNITION AWARD

Created as a result of a resolution passed at the 2016 NYSUT RA, this award recognizes those locals that have made a collective and sustained contribution to promoting social justice and human rights during the previous year. This award is named after longtime NYSUT Civil and Human Rights Committee Member and activist Ken Kurzweil, who spent years educating fellow NYSUT members and the local community on civil rights, social justice and human rights issues.

Buffalo Teachers Federation

Philip Rumore, President

The Buffalo Teachers Federation consistently evidences a belief in social justice. In 2021, they demonstrated this by:

- Advocating for educational justice, including resources schools need.
- Supporting initiatives to combat hunger and poverty.
- Educating the public about the rights of undocumented children to public education.
- Demonstrating labor solidarity and wage equity.
- Championing racial justice.
- Championing women's issues, history and rights.
- Providing information on health care for members and the community.
- Advocating for environmental justice via a lead abatement law in Buffalo.

Hicksville Congress of Teachers

Stephanie Sullo, President

The Hicksville Congress of Teachers consistently evidences a belief in social justice. In 2021, they demonstrated this by:

- Advocating for educational justice, including full funding of public education.
- Participating in "day of action" events for public education.
- Supporting initiatives to combat hunger and poverty.
- Demonstrating labor solidarity, including supporting recognition of School-Related Professionals.

Retiree Council 44

Sara Rodland, President

Retiree Council 44 consistently evidences a belief in social justice. In 2021, they demonstrated this by:

- Supporting survivors of domestic abuse.
- Advocating for educational justice, including supporting diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives.
- Supporting initiatives to combat hunger and poverty.
- Advocating fair and unbiased immigration reform policies.
- Demonstrating labor solidarity.
- Championing racial justice, including legislation to make voting easier.
- Advocating against elder abuse.
- Promoting wage equity.
- Championing women's issues, history and rights.
- Providing information on health care for members and the community.