April a reminder to focus on workers’ physical safety
With April being the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Awareness Month and April 26 being National Workers Memorial Day, this is a timely reminder to focus on the physical and emotional well-being of yourself, your co-workers and your family.

Dignity and Respect
On April 26, NALC will host its third annual Letter Carriers’ Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive, which is the largest single-day food drive in the United States. NALC members will work with postal employees across the country to collect food donations from the public in an effort to raise awareness about hunger in America and encourage more people to contribute to the effort. The Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive is just one of many ways NALC and its members work to make a difference in the lives of others and to help support local food banks.

Federal budget process update
The government is continuing to operate in a series of temporary funding measures known as continuing resolutions (CRs), which allow the government to function at current spending levels. Even this stopgap method of funding cannot continue indefinitely, and the current CR is set to expire on March 23. The current budget year began in October and ends on September 30. By that time, lawmakers are supposed to agree on a full-year budget and pass it in time for the government to operate without a funding gap.

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EAP provides confidential counseling to help postal workers and their families manage the many challenges they face, including work-related stressors, family issues, substance abuse, anxiety, job performance, and personal or work relationship problems. The program is designed to help individuals identify the problem and suggest a variety of potential solutions. The panel’s deadline to provide a report is Nov. 30.

Dignity and Respect
NALC has a long history of advocating for dignity and respect in the workplace. NALC has worked with the Postal Service to develop protocols for recognizing unacceptable behavior and training employees on their responsibilities. The guide takes a shop steward through the five key elements necessary for a safe and healthful workplace, including: communication with employees; protecting employees’ rights; documenting and reporting incidents; and training employees.

Salute to retiring national officers
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