We are stronger together

It’s been a little more than five months since I began my assignment and all I can say is, “Wow.” Being assistant to the president for community services has been fast-paced and exciting. I have been blessed that everyone has welcomed me with open arms. I am so excited to be in a position to assist with the many projects that help our local communities. The bond our members build with their customers and communities gives us a true sense of belonging.

We help because it’s our civic duty. We help because it builds trust with our customers. We help because we know building and strengthening relationships where we live and work benefits us all. Helping each other is one of the oldest traditions of the U.S. labor movement.

Community service helps mobilize union members, enhances labor’s image and creates strategic relationships to support working families. Uniting to help our customers and communities gives us power in negotiations.

NALC’s community service campaigns include the Letter Carriers’ Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, letter carrier heroes, the NALC Veterans Group, Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA), Carrier Alert, the Postal Employees Relief Fund (PERF) and the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC).

I have recently taken over the letter carrier heroes program. Every day, our members are on the streets in every community of every neighborhood of every city in every state. Letter carriers’ jobs put them in constant contact with the public. Carriers are the last public servants to make regular rounds and come into daily contact with customers.

Letter carrier heroes

Brothers and sisters, you are the eyes and ears of the community, often saving customers from burglars, burning homes or a life-threatening health crisis. Being a hero is second nature for a letter carrier. With that said, I want to remind branch presidents and other members that the heroes nomination form is online. If you think one of your members has done a heroic deed and should be recognized, you can use the nomination form below or go to nalc.org/community-service/carrier-heroes/nominate-a-hero and print out, complete it and mail in the form.

I again want to thank President Fredric Rolando for appointing me to the NALC Community Services Department. I am here to serve the president and to serve you, my brothers and sisters.

Thanks again for your hard work on the food drive and the Veterans Group project. Your ongoing volunteer efforts make NALC the success it is.

Serving our members and communities is our job. When we all work together, we will never fail. Remember, “There is no greater calling than to serve your fellow men. There is no greater contribution than to help the weak. There is no greater satisfaction than to have done it well,” as stated by labor leader Walter Reuther.