

# WAC/CMCA Conference Report

May 3-5, 2024

Kalahari Resort and Conference Center, Sandusky OH

Presented by Shawnett Wade

## OCSEA contract ratification important Dates:

5/1 - Request to extend the contract until 7/11/2024, was sent to OCB: review the OCSEA website for s list of dates

6/10 - Ratifications notifications

Look out for OCSEA emails, from President Chris Mabe

I enjoyed Dr. Audra Martin's, speaker on "Weaving the Tapestry Breaking Barriers" speech regarding "Self-Care." Showing up for yourself in the midst of it all. Very powerful and well stated, as it plays a pivotal part in our mental health. Mental Health Awareness Month 5-1 to 5-31.

The vendors were an awesome addition to the event. Purchasing Power provided a plethora of information:

- OCSEA active member
- Eligible after 6 months of active OCSEA membership
- Manageable payments automatically deducted from your paycheck in equal installments over 18 months
- Online ordering or by phone
- No credit check
- No additional fees beyond the all-inclusive price
- No down payment required, optional deposit available to decrease payroll deductions,
- Purchasing Power - [ocsea.org/extras](http://ocsea.org/extras) or call 888-923-6236
- [OCSEAEducation.org](http://OCSEAEducation.org) - List of training provided by the Education Department

As well as other vendors affiliated with Chapter 2599 were present.

President Chris Mabe spoke on the emergency pay court case being at the Ohio Supreme Court and further stated "No news is good news." - Stay tuned.

# CMAC / WAC 2024 Report from Ul'Ique Campbell

CMAC / WAC 2024

KALAHARI INDOOR WATERPARK

THEME: WEAVING THE TAPESTRY AND BREAKING BARRIERS

So glad to see the new members attend from Chapter 2599 and other Chapters.

The theme said it all! Awesome speakers and very inspiring.

I love the unity we share at the Conference and the best part was seeing the final product of everyone attaching their yarn made a very unique throw. I didn't know what the string was at first until we had the first session and they explained it, but it was really nice to see the final product from all of our yarn being put together.

I can finally say I attended a conference and they serve food that was just pork. I have complained at every conference. I've went to because they only cater or prepare food for people who eat pork and that is unfair to me and I know the committee is tired of hearing my mouth. Thank you for listening and making the correct change.

Dr. Auja Martin, who is the CEO and cofounder of the house of Grace LLC was very awesome. She talked on our mental well-being because she deals with intellectual developmental disability and mental health issues and disorders so what she was speaking on was about public servants equal, and community champions. community champion does is they break barriers, volunteer in their community, and active in the political division.

One thing she focused on is self-care. Self-care plus public service equals a commit a resilient community champion.

Dr. Martin discussed the process of a diamond and how it is a natural mineral and it is designed under pressure. And just like a diamond we all get try and test it and it forms us into what we need to become. Always start with yourself just like the airlines teaches you, make sure you are prepared before you start to help others. You can do others no good if you are not in good shape or good health mentally or physically yourself.

Still thinking of my theme song and it will come to me periodically.

I appreciated President Mabe providing us with the update on contract negotiations, and an update on emergency pay. There are members in our chapter that constantly want to know the outcome. Based on 1199 appealing the decision and the courts ruled against them, there is no need to be in a rush. We need to wait and let it all play out. It is very

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disheartening to learn how much the state appreciates us as employees and do not believe we deserve a raise to cover the work we do and including when we had to go without a raise for a few years. Thank you to our bargaining team for all you were doing for us.

Next speaker Lindsay. She had a very touching speech. I could relate to everything she was saying and experienced a lot of what she discussed. I cried and rejoiced with her nad she is a prime example of the process a diamond goes through.

Andre Washington was Amazing. He had me feeling like I was in a church service. He focused most on talking about the upcoming political race and gerrymandering that it's coming up again. As the president of APRI, he provided updates on the upcoming challenges that we are facing as a union to include OAPSE. We need to get on board and go out and be a voice in our community to spread the word. We need to get more people in our communities registered to vote. Andre also talked about the sacrifices we make as union activist and members. Yes this is volunteer work and very tiring but, if we don't do it then it won't get done. Being United as a Union and standing for what is right is my focus.

I also want to say the vendors were awesome. I finally was able to purchase more fans and get more Union information. however, my only complaint was that the resort was big and the distance to get to our conference rooms was was not an easy task. Please ask the members if they need any ADA accommodations if you choose this location again. This will assist those with disabilities to be able to get to the locations without any issues.

Thanks for all you do for us.

Ul'Ique A. Campbell