



-New York, NY

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Social Policy Workers United Authorizes ULP Strike at MDRC

Members of Social Policy Workers United (SPWU), the staff union at MDRC, have voted to authorize a three-day Unfair Labor Practice Strike to protest withheld wage increases that target members of the union.

MDRC is a social policy research organization focused on programs and policies affecting people with low incomes.

SPWU organized in 2021 to create a fair, equitable, and just workplace.

After nearly two years of bargaining, MDRC Management decided to withhold year end wage increases to union members, while implementing them to employees outside the bargaining unit, presumably to pressure the union. This violates MDRC's longstanding policy and behavior earlier in negotiations, and has caused undue hardship on MDRC's union employees, when many are struggling to make ends meet. Each day that MDRC Management chooses to withhold wage increases, they cause more harm to over 170 MDRC workers.

SPWU Filed Unfair Labor Practice Charges against MDRC in early May.

"Our members have gone nearly a year and a half without receiving raises, while the cost of living continues to skyrocket. While MDRC stalls, we still have rent checks to write, bills to pay, and groceries to buy. MDRC must remedy the financial harm caused by its unfair labor practice." –Colin Hill, SPWU Vice President

"As union members, we are standing up because MDRC's pressure tactics are unacceptable and unlawful. We call on MDRC to return to the table and bargain in good faith." –Erika Lewy, SPWU Secretary

An affiliate of AFSCME Council 57, SPWU will be picketing MDRC Offices at their headquarters in New York, in addition to MDRC satellite offices in Washington, DC and Oakland, CA. For more information, go to www.socialpolicyworkersunited.org.

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