## **ORGANIZING ACADEMY**



The  $7^{th}$  annual PED Organizing Academy took place in Phoenix, AZ from March 16-22, 2014. This intense 6 day organizing training and organizing drive was conducted by the LIUNA Public Employee Department with assistance from the Pacific Southwest Region Organizers, the International Union's Organizing Department, and host Local 777.

The training began on Sunday, March 16. The class, made up of 13 students from five Regions, and 7 mentors, was welcomed by Pacific Southwest Regional Manager and Vice President Rocco Davis. One of the highlights of the training was going to the State House of Representatives in support of legislation that would affect collective bargaining rights of LIUNA Local 777 members.

During the week of organizing and training, **28 NEW MEMBERS** joined LIUNA. In addition, several leaders/new stewards were identified at Local 777.

The class had an opportunity to volunteer for two hours at the St. Mary's Food Bank the world's first food bank, where they sorted the largest amount of food in the shortest amount of time than any other volunteer group since the inception of the food bank in 1967. LIUNA's women and men are proud to support all of our brothers and sisters in all walks of life.