NATCA Members Represent ATC Profession in New Video Series

NATCA members from Washington Center (ZDC), Ft. Pierce Beach ATCT (FPR), Andrews Air Force Base ATCT (ADW), and Potomac TRACON (PCT), proudly represent our Union in a new video series highlighting the air traffic profession and sharing why being a controller is a challenging, but rewarding career.

View them here:
- Be ATC to Save Lives
- Be ATC: Be Rewarded
- Be ATC to Live Your Dream

PHOTO: Lillian Izquierdo

Indianapolis Members Celebrate Love, Inclusion at Indy Pride Parade

NATCA Indianapolis Center (ZID) members participated in the Indy Pride Parade on Saturday, June 11. More than 30 ZID members and local NATCA family joined in representing our Union out of the 131 organizations and businesses that marched in Indy Pride.
"I had the honor to attend the Indianapolis Pride Parade with the great members from ZID," NATCA Great Lakes Regional Vice President Drew MacQueen said. "It was an amazing event of inclusion and tolerance for all who attended. I was proud to be a part of an event that promotes respect, love, and understanding for all."

NATCA & NCF 2022 Pride Shirt Sale Provides Vital Support for Three Charities Serving LGBTQ+ Young People

NATCA and the NATCA Charitable Foundation (NCF) joined in selling Pride t-shirts to raise funds and awareness of the LGBTQ+ Community. NATCA members and family and friends purchased nearly 200 shirts, exceeding the sales goal for 2022 by nearly 33 percent. The effort raised $1,820. All proceeds from this fundraiser along with a $2,080 additional donation from NCF will mean that the supported LGBTQ+ charities in Washington, D.C., New York, N.Y., and Los Angeles, Calif. will each be getting a $1,300 donation. These charities are:

- **SMYAL (Supporting and Mentoring Youth Advocates and Leaders)** supports and empowers lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth in the Washington, DC, metropolitan region.

- **New Alternatives for LGBT Homeless Youth** increases the self-sufficiency of LGBTQ+ homeless youth by enabling them to transition out of the shelter system to stable adult lives.
The Los Angeles LGBT Center provides transitional housing, host homes, educational opportunities, life mentoring, and employment services to the thousands of LGBT young people experiencing homelessness in L.A.

About the fundraising effort, NCF President Corrie Conrad stated, “NATCA’s generous members once again stepped up to answer the call of need – raising a record amount from our Pride fundraising activities for these important charities serving LGBTQ+ young people in L.A., New York City, and Washington. NCF is proud to have once again organize this effort that raises funds and awareness of the LGBTQ+ Community.”

NATCA Scholarship Winner Melanie Barber Essay: “Stronger Together”

"People can be ... strong together because they are all fighting for the same thing. All of their passion that they share will make them even stronger... because of their group effort and confidence that they have in one another."

— 2022 NATCA Scholarship winner Melanie Barber, child of Houston Center (ZHU) member Wayne Barber

Every year, NATCA offers a scholarship program for spouses, children, stepchildren, and legally adopted children of active, retired, and deceased members in good standing for at least two consecutive years. This scholarship is for full-time attendance at accredited colleges and universities within the United States and its territories for an undergraduate degree program.

Unions empower people to negotiate together and advocate for better conditions and policies on local, state and national levels, working to achieve a brighter future for everyone. For 2022, students were asked to write in response to the prompt: “What is the difference between a group of people advocating for a cause versus one person speaking up for something they feel strongly about?"

Melanie Barber, child of Houston Center (ZHU) member Wayne Barber is among the 2022 winners of the NATCA scholarship. Read the essay Melanie submitted:

Read Melanie’s essay here.