

**Thomas (Tom) Bruno, Jr.** is a 28 year employee with the Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities and an outspoken opponent of the privatization of pensions and other state services. He started at Hunterdon Developmental Center (HDC) in 1978 as a direct care worker. He was a union leader with AFSCME from 1979 through 1981, shortly before being promoted out of the bargaining unit.

Tom was eventually promoted to his current title of Head Cottage Training Supervisor in 1986 and has been a member of CWA Local 1040 since 1982. His role as the Branch President of CWA at HDC since 1989 and his previous duties as a Staff Representative/Organizer/Legislative Chair/Anti-Privatization Committee Chair for Local 1040, a Union of nearly 10,000 members, have provided Tom with a vast array of experience in negotiating contracts, ensuring worker rights, and dealing with politicians to ensure positive outcomes for workers.

Mr. Bruno is one of twelve charter members of an elite international panel of anti privatization experts called "CAPP." He has published numerous manuscripts and position papers on privatization pitfalls and on the plight of the Mentally Ill in New Jersey and is considered to be an expert in both topics. He is the author of numerous Privatization related manuscripts such as, "Privatization...Who Really Wins?", "Competitivation, Privatization, Public-Private Partnerships and Other Euphemisms For Disservice", "Alternatives to Privatization", and "New Jersey's Mental Health System... An Illustration of a Failed Social Policy".

In June of 2000, he was called upon by Vice President Gore's White House staff to provide his published papers and his legislative testimony regarding the lack of follow up with discharged Psychiatric Hospital patients and the "transinstitutionalization" of the mentally ill from Psychiatric Hospitals into the State Prison system.

He has negotiated numerous collective bargaining agreements in both public and private sectors. He was appointed to Governor Whitman's Institutional Closure Committee (as a union representative protecting workers' rights) and was on Governor McGreevey's Transition team in 2002, which resulted in his published report, "Closing the Gap" (© 2002 – a special cost saving/Revenue enhancing report for Governor McGreevey which was implemented and subsequently exceeded its target of over \$450 million) without the need for layoffs or additional cost sharing of employee retirement benefits.

Tom's expertise in researching, examining, and comparatively analyzing information, along with his solid pro-worker ideology has earned him the respect of his co-workers and members at the HDC Branch of CWA Local 1040, as well as politicians from both sides of the aisle, both federally and statewide.

He is married to his wife, Robin and has 3 children, Thomas, III, Michelle and Patricia.