

John Doherty

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John Doherty, a third-generation member of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) and Boston native, has dedicated his career to advancing workforce development, climate justice and economic equity through innovative strategies and partnerships. Beginning as an apprentice painter in 1994, he cultivated a lifelong commitment to social and economic justice, which propelled him into leadership roles in organizing, advocacy and policy development with IUPAT. John's contributions to workforce development are far-reaching. As a member of the workforce advisory board at Madison Park Technical-Vocational High School in Roxbury, Massachusetts, he played a pivotal role in establishing a finishing trades program that created direct pathways from preapprenticeship to union membership for underserved students. This program has since expanded to other trades, embedding registered apprenticeship as a cornerstone of vocational education in Boston and championing equitable access to quality construction careers. As senior advisor to IUPAT's general president, John provides strategic guidance on workforce, climate and infrastructure issues while fostering collaboration between labor and communities. He serves on multiple climate-focused boards to drive clean energy job creation and sustainable careers, connecting organized labor with community-based programs to advance a just transition to a green economy. John also brings a sharp focus to capital strategies, IUPAT pension stewardship and the transformative power of working capital. In 2024, he introduced a capital strategies resolution that was unanimously ratified by delegates to the 33rd IUPAT General Convention. This resolution underscores the union's commitment to leveraging its financial resources to advance labor priorities and economic justice, ensuring that working capital is a force for empowering workers and communities. John's multifaceted leadership reflects his dedication to building inclusive systems that promote equity, sustainability and prosperity for all. Through his work, he continues to advocate for innovative solutions that strengthen the labor movement and create opportunities for current and future generations.