

Neal Kwatra
Deputy Director of the Strategic Affairs Department
UNITE HERE!

After graduating from Rutgers University in 1996 with honors degrees in Political Science and Journalism, Neal Kwatra interned with the White House Press Office and the AFL-CIO through the Union Summer organizer training program. In 1996, Neal joined Darlene Hooley's (D-OR) Congressional campaign staff as Field Director. After her victory, Neal joined Hooley's staff briefly in Washington D.C. as a legislative aide before joining the AFL-CIO's Center for Strategic Research, where he worked on the Farmworker's Strawberry campaign and geographic target organizing. In 1998 Neal left the AFL-CIO to join HERE, one of UNITE HERE's predecessor unions, in New Haven, CT as a Research Analyst. In this role he was responsible for coordinating the Union's political, community and strategic research efforts to secure card check neutrality agreements on new hotel projects in New Haven and Providence, RI.

Since 2000, Neal has lead UNITE HERE's new hotel development efforts on the East Coast and now nationally. His current role is as Deputy Director of the UNITEHERE Strategic Affairs Department. Neal oversees UNITE HERE's national new hotel development program and spearheads the Informed Meetings Exchange (INMEX), an organization he founded to play a critical role in using the economic power of large group meetings and conventions in UNITE HERE's works with hotel developers, owners and operators.