

Union 
Update

OPEIU
Local 

for Local 8 members at Kaiser Permanente/Washington

Strike Against Kaiser in Nine States – not Washington

At this week's national bargain, members of the Coalition's Bargaining Team voted unanimously to go on strike against Kaiser Permanente. The strike is set to begin on Monday, October 14 and last seven days. Over 83,000 KP workers around the United States will walk off the job. **Union members of OPEIU Local 8 and SEIU 1199/NW can't strike because our local contracts aren't expired but we will support our fellow KP brothers and sisters in their fight for a fair National Agreement for all!**

Why are KP Workers Going to Strike?

This will be the first strike in the 20-year history of the Labor Management Partnership. Despite massive profits – Kaiser has already made a \$5.2 billion profit in just the first six months of 2019 with \$35 billion in reserves – their latest proposal sends the message that YOU'RE NOT WORTH IT:

- 1% to 3% annual wage increases depending on where you work, with California receiving the largest amount.
- A 15% cut in wage rates for new hires
- Continue outsourcing of union jobs
- Elimination of the defined benefit pension for new hires
- Increasing all health co-pays
- Refusing to apply all terms and conditions of the National Agreement to KP/WA employees – including retiree medical coverage



If We Can't Strike – How can we Show Support and Solidarity?

As long as our Local 8 Contract with KP remains in effect (through March 31, 2021) KP/WA employees cannot "*interfere with the efficient operation of the Employer's business or take part in any action whatever to prevent access of employees to the Employer's place of business.*" That being said, there are many ways we can show support during the strike week of October 14: wear red clothing, sticker-up, pass-out literature to patients during breaks and before or after work and participate in an electronic "sympathy" vote that shows our solidarity with fellow KP workers across the nation.

What's Next?

One more bargaining session is scheduled for September 23 and 24. Unless Kaiser executives come to their senses, **THERE WILL BE A NATIONWIDE STRIKE**. It will be the largest strike in America in more than two decades. If this comes to pass, we'll set in motion ways to show support. We'll keep you posted.

In Unity,

Your 2019 Kaiser National Bargaining Team

Additional questions? Please contact OPEIU Local 8 Business Manager Suzanne Mode at suzanne@opeiu8.org.

Visit our website



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