

April 14, 2019

**Union** ★  
**Update**

**OPEIU**  
Local



*for OPEIU Local 8 members at Sea Mar*

## **Our Team Needs Our Help.**

Our Bargaining Team is frustrated in the COVID Negotiations with Sea Mar which have been going on for many weeks. We have asked that more workers be allowed to work from the safety of their homes; that workers receive paid administrative leave if they are told by Sea Mar to go home/not report to work due to exhibiting COVID-like symptoms and that the employer pay three days of administrative leave during the waiting period for worker's compensation due to COVID-19 exposure on the job.

Our Union Bargaining Team has proposed solutions to ensure we can all meet our financial obligations and care for ourselves and our families. Administration talks a lot about costs to the organization, but not the toll on employees.

Our team asked what Administration is willing to sacrifice in this pandemic to acknowledge the hardships that most of us are experiencing: burning through our PTO, going into negative PTO balances which will have to be paid back to Sea Mar, taking unpaid time off and applying for unemployment. So far we have been meet with silence.

Please help us send a message to Sea Mar Administration that they need to support us, their employees, in this pandemic just as we continue to support our patients and clients. **Our team asks that all of us sign this petition**, let your co-workers know about the petition, and encourage them to sign it too.

**SIGN THE PETITION**

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### **Can I apply for unemployment if my weekly hours have been cut, or if I am taking weeks off at a time?**

Yes, if you are taking unpaid time off you are eligible for unemployment if you are off more than 8 hours a week. Here is the link to more information:

<https://esd.wa.gov/>

**For more COVID-19 information visit the Union website:**

<https://www.opeiu8.org/Home/COVID-19Information.aspx>

**For information about Basic Food (food stamps):**

<https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/community-services-offices/basic-food>

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***If you have further questions, contact your Union Rep:***

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