

Union ★
Update

OPEIU
Local



for OPEIU Local 8 members at Valley Medical Center

Contract Bargaining Continues

Our Union bargaining team met with management again on December 15th to continue negotiating our new contract.

We have secured tentative agreements including updating contract language to be non-binary, adding a time limit for when an employee will be transferred to a new position and improved preceptor language. We also gave management our economic proposals including:

- Across-the-board wage increases
- Necessary market adjustments to retain and recruit employees
- Improvements to holiday pay for employees working variable shifts
- Increasing the float premium for PSRs who volunteer or are required to float to other clinics (See MOU #2 for more details, on [page 48 of the contract](#).)

Throughout the COVID 19 pandemic, many of our coworkers have been working from home, and we need to ensure we maintain our Union protections and secure working conditions whether we are working from home or working on site. We are bargaining with Management to reach a “Master Telework Agreement” which will address the working conditions such as eligibility, internet and private working spaces, as well ergonomic needs and compensation.

The Union is maintaining its proposals including that all employees should be paid for all scheduled hours if the department or facility are closed due to inclement weather; and enhanced severance pay.

At our last session, management proposed a comprehensive telework agreement which would expand telework for more workers on a longer-term basis. We had a lot of discussion about the working conditions for employees who are teleworking and will continue to negotiate eligibility, compensation and all working conditions for employees who telework.

Additional bargaining dates have been scheduled on December 30th and January 7th, 2021.

Additional Bargaining Unit Updates

NEW Early Retirement Option: You may have received a letter if you are eligible for an early retirement package. If you are interested please be sure to fill out the application which must be submitted by **January 28, 2021**. Applicants will be notified if approved by February 1, 2021.

Sick Leave Cash Out and Conversion Option: Did you submit a request to convert sick leave time into vacation time or cash it out this year and were told you would be required to

forfeit the remaining sick time? *If you have been notified that your additional hours will be subject forfeiture, please contact your Union Representative Erin Adamson at erin@OPEIU8.org or 206-441-8880 ext. 105 immediately.*

Our Union Bargaining Team:

Elizabeth Burns, PSR,
Romy Domingo, Hospital Registrar,
Brenda Larson, PSR,
Shannon Cuney, PFS
Tracy Speights, ISR
Kathleen Wilbur, PFS

Support Your Bargaining Team by Wearing Your OPEIU Mask!



OPEIU supports all of the front-line workers who continue to work in order to keep all of us safe throughout the COVID 19 pandemic. Please contact your Union Representative Erin Adamson at erin@opeiu8.org for more information and to get your mask!

Join our Contract Action Team to share bargaining updates with coworkers and participate in contract actions to help us all win a fair contract. To join please contact your Union Representative Erin Adamson at 206-441-8880 ext. 105 or erin@opeiu8.org

Want to stay informed about union negotiations, meetings, and actions in your workplace?

Text **Local 8** to **97779** to receive text updates.

It will prompt you to let us know your name and where you work to make sure you get the right updates. (Message and data rates may apply).

Visit our website



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