

Union ★ Update

OPEIU
Local



For OPEIU Local 8 members at YouthCare

June 5, 2020

There are no words to address the long-overdue response to the murder of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Sean Reed, Manuel Ellis and thousands of other Black people who have been unjustly murdered at the hands of police. That Black, Indigenous and People of Color carry on with grief, anger and unrest while being present for young people every day is nothing new. Our Bargaining Team, in addition to contract proposals, has been focused on how our Union can best support the Black staff during this devastating time. We proposed the following to management and will continue to work with YC staff through these difficult times to advocate for what you believe is needed to best support you.

- Provide a letter to staff who must travel during curfew hours should they be questioned by law enforcement
- Provide paid administrative leave to Black staff who need time to grieve and heal away from work
- Provide staff with YC-wide communications with available resources within YC and the community

[Statement on the Murder of George Floyd and Nationwide Protests](#) by OPEIU Local 8's

**Some Good
News...**

Race, Equality and Social Justice Committee,
dated 6/02/2020

We continue to negotiate with management over our first contract and will provide a detailed update of our progress in our update next week.

All On-call staff received a pay increase from \$15.75 to \$16.50 per hour effective June 1, 2020

Resources Available to You

Hotel Rooms for Essential Workers

Essential service workers who are concerned about exposure to COVID-19 due to the nature of their work and who live with a high-risk person, like an elderly person, young children or another high-risk group, may be eligible for a hotel accommodation through King County. There are a limited number of hotel rooms **available through June 15**. For questions or to request a room, please contact Phoebe Feldsher at phoebe@opeiu8.org or call 206-441-8880 X119 and leave a voicemail.

Requesting Time Off to Mourn – Paid Admin Leave

We recognize the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Sean Reed, Tony McDade, Manuel Ellis and many more are cause for deep-felt grief, particularly for Black and Brown people. Time off is one way that employers can support staff's self-care, wellness, and healing. Management shared at one of our previous bargaining sessions that employees who feel they need time off due to traumatic events at work may request paid administrative leave. To request paid administrative leave, email your request to your immediate supervisor and the Chief Human Resources Officer, Barbara Gangwer.

FFCRA - Find out if you qualify for paid sick leave or expanded family and medical leave through the [Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#). To request paid sick leave or family and medical leave through the FFCRA email Barbara Gangwer in Human Resources.

Employee Assistance Program or EAP

The Employee Assistance Program offers six sessions per issue with a therapist at no cost to members. For more information on how to access EAP contact your immediate supervisor or the Chief Human Resources Officer, Barbara Gangwer

For more info on Covid-19 resources and leaves go to [OPEIU Local 8's COVID-19 Information page](#).

Questions? Contact your Bargaining Team

Tremmell Collins, On-Call Youth Counselor, Over 18 Housing;
Thomas Petrik, Residential Counselor, Jackson Street Shelter;
Paris Chapman, Employer Engagement Specialist, Orion;
St. Ennah Akudihor, Housing Navigator Case Manager, UDYC;
Emily Penna, Program Coordinator, Employment & Education;
Craig Gibson, Volunteer & Community Engagement Specialist, Development;
Meredith Clark, Case Manager, Casa;
Arren Lenau, Youth Counselor, Pathways;
Valeria Maganya, Case Manager, Pathways
Deepa Ramdial, Case Manager, Passages;
Katrina Go, Care Coordinator, Prevention;
Niki Sebatware, Youth Counselor, U Commons

or

OPEIU Organizer Corinne Cosentino at 425-318-2650 or corinne@opeiu8.org

Membership Support Representative Phoebe Feldsher at 206-441-8880 ext. 119 or phoebe@opeiu8.org

Union Representative Diane Arnold at 206-441-8880 ext. 115 or diane@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)



OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCAL 8
1-800-600-2433 or 206-441-8880 ★ Fax: 206-441-441-0207 ★ www.opeiu8.org

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