

Union ★
Update

OPEIU
Local



For Local 8 Members at Samaritan Healthcare

February 4, 2021

See correction below for Zoom meeting date

Bargaining Update

Negotiations are rough and management is not treating your group with respect.

Your Bargaining Team is stellar and has not backed down. They are doing their best to protect you and your best interests – **but we need your help!!**

Where we stand today:

We have filed for mediation with the Public Employee Relations Council (PERC) to have a neutral third party help us reach a new contract with Samaritan

- The contract extension that union members voted to approve last summer expired on 1/31/2021. Management is unwilling to agree to another extension.

History: Samaritan was not ready to start negotiations on your new contract in the spring, as we have done in the past. Instead they asked us to vote an extension and start negotiations 6 months later than we historically would have begun this process. When we finally met in October, we again reminded them that it typically takes six months to negotiate your contract and we only had four months before the contract extension was to expire at that time. We repeatedly requested they provide more dates for negotiations, these requests fell on deaf ears. Due to their failure to engage in a timely fashion, the extension that you approved has expired and they are unwilling to allow for an additional extension. Although it is expired, please know that all terms and conditions of the contract remain in place except our ability to take a grievance to arbitration. We currently have no outstanding grievances headed for arbitration. It does show a severe lack of respect and partnership toward your Union.

- Where we started – the employer brought 45 items to the bargaining table that gut your contract and take away major benefits including:
 - ☞ Reduce EIB benefits from a maximum of 720 hours to 420 hours
 - ☞ Reduce the job posting period from 7 days to 3 days
 - ☞ Eliminate double time pay for overtime
 - ☞ Layoff/recall determined by the manager, not by your seniority
 - ☞ Greatly limit the eligibility Certification Pay
 - ☞ Require use of Washington State Paid Sick Leave (WAPSL) prior to accessing EIB leave, instead of employee having the choice to use PTO at their discretion
- Samaritan’s wage proposals are just as dismal:

- 👉 No Traditional Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increases
- 👉 An annual COLA to be replaced by market adjustments
- 👉 Many market adjustments fall below 1.5% per year

How can you help us win a fair contract?

Encourage non-dues-paying members to join the Union!! This is the most important thing you can all do right now. Come together! Show we are united! In Unity there is Strength, Samaritan needs to see support of the union through a strong and powerful membership presence!

Please have non dues paying co-workers fill out our electronic membership card –

<https://form.jotform.com/203156763998066>

Questions, Concerns, Ideas?

Corrected Date: Please join Angie Wedekind – your Union Representative, Suzanne Mode – OPEIU Local 8 Business Manager, and members of your Bargaining Team at 6pm ***Tuesday night, Feb. 9th*** on Zoom to address your questions and talk about the plan moving forward.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87255030767>

Meeting ID: 872 5503 0767

One tap mobile

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+16699009128,,87255030767# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

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Meeting ID: 872 5503 0767

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/keCQYpiFQH>

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)



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