

Union ★
Update

OPEIU
Local



For Local 8 Members at Low Income Housing Institute

May 6, 2022

LIHI Management's Latest Wage Offer Still Falls Short!

Our Bargaining Team met with management on May 2nd to continue bargaining our new Union contract. Management increased their initial wage offer of 4.2% to 5% retro to January 1, 2022, but it still falls short of the current Consumer Price Index. While we have reached Tentative Agreements around employees accessing their sick leave after 90 days of employment, new opportunities to job shadow for employees who may be interested in moving into different positions and improved holiday pay benefits for part time employees who work on Thanksgiving and/or Christmas, management continues to offer a cost-of-living increase less than the actual cost of living.

Despite the rising cost of living and staffing shortages, management's response to our wage proposal was to threaten layoffs! Management already has many open positions that remain unfilled due to low wages. LIHI continues to expand their business and they need to compensate their current employees fairly.

Governor Inslee visited one of the Tiny House villages and shared his thoughts about how much we need low-income housing. We need a real livable wage so we can afford housing for our families and to be stable in order to continue helping our clients and communities.

Support your bargaining team by signing onto the following letter to Governor Inslee:

Dear Governor Inslee,

We are the workers at Low Income Housing Institute. We have been in contract negotiations since December 2021. Throughout this process we have watched the cost of living rise over 8% resulting in increases to our housing, food, and gas costs.

We recognize your commitment to help all Washingtonians achieve housing security. We as workers at LIHI are working towards the same goal. We work hard for the communities we serve but are also struggling to survive. Most of us are one paycheck away from qualifying for the services we provide our clients at LIHI.

We are asking you to assist us in reaching a fair agreement which includes a wage increase in alignment with the real cost of living.

In Solidarity,

[Click here to sign this letter.](#)

OR

email erin@opeiu8.org or diane-shelby@opeiu8.org and let them know to add your name to the letter to the governor.

Our Union Bargaining Team

April Carter, Auburn Manor and White River Gardens;
Dennis Johnson. Frye Apartments;
Gerald Williams, TEMS 4;
Brandon Ashfield-Whitfield, TEMS/Village at 6th and Orchard and
Erin Adamson and Diane Arnold, Union Representatives.

If you have questions, please contact your Bargaining Team members or Diane or Shelby at diane-shelby@opeiu8.org or 206-441-8880- ext. 115 or Erin Adamson at erin@opeiu8.org or 206-441-880-ext. 105.

Upcoming Training on Retirement

Understanding OPEIU Local 8's 401(k) Retirement Plan/Comprender el plan de jubilación 401(k) de OPEIU Local 8

Tuesday, May 17 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. *Via Zoom*

This Zoom presentation will be offered in both English and Spanish.

LHI contributes an amount equal to 4% of our gross wages to this plan after one year of employment into the OPEIU Local 8 Retirement Plan. As members at LHI, we are also eligible to make pre-tax contributions to our Retirement Plan, even before we've worked at LHI for one year.

Join us for a presentation including:

- Setting up online access to your 401K account
- How to maximize your 401K Plan
- Choosing the right investment plan, based on the age you want to retire
- Additional information to assist you in preparing for retirement

Representatives from Milliman and BAC will present this information and be available to answer questions.

To participate, please RSVP by Monday, May 16

[online](#) or to Sally@opeiu8.org (please mention Retirement Plan Training)

Website Makeover

The OPEIU Local 8 website has a new look!!! Please visit our new and improved website at www.opeiu8.org and find upcoming Union events, Union benefits, your Union contract, workplace updates, workplace information and much more.



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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