

March 22, 2023

**Union** ★  
**Update**

**OPEIU**  
Local



*for OPEIU Local 8 members at Sea Mar Community Health Centers*

## **Bargaining Update**

The past three years have been unprecedented. We, the workers at Sea Mar, have faced a pandemic, severe staffing shortages, and historic inflation. Despite it all, we show up to work every day to give our best to the community we serve.

We go above and beyond for Sea Mar and our community. Management refuses to recognize and respect our work by offering minimal wages increases despite the growing staffing crisis at Sea Mar.

We met with management on Friday March 17, and Sea Mar continued to hold on their status quo wage proposal of 4% for each of the next three years. Our bargaining team bravely shared how the workers are struggling to take care of themselves and their families. Sea Mar also refuses to address the wage scale compression that continues to create low employee morale and drive our coworkers to seek employment outside of Sea Mar.

And now, Management plans to cut CPR certification classes for staff, requiring only a few employees in clinics to be CPR certified. This is a matter of public and worker safety. Sea Mar needs to invest in staff and patient safety.

We have reached several tentative agreements around written notification of transfers, increased training pay and night shift differential, but we are still very far apart.

**We return to the table Friday March 24.**

We must show Sea Mar that we are united, and demand they recognize our hard work!

Sign the petition here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XMBVQ8M> or by using the QR code below:



We are awaiting management's response on increasing PTO, defining timeframes for transfers, premiums for workload when covering vacancies, and addressing the ongoing inequities of wage compression and market adjustments. We return to the bargaining table Friday, March 17th.

Quote from our bargaining team:

*“When negotiations started, I was hopeful that Sea Mar would come to the table ready to acknowledge the hard work we do with a real pay increase. I know people have left my clinic for other better paying jobs, and our patients are suffering due to the short staffing. We need to stand together to win this fight. Not just for ourselves and our families, but for patients and participants at Sea Mar too.” - Nacole Holmes*

Our Bargaining Team:

1. Genevieve Hutchings, RNII, MSS (Pierce County)
2. Nacole Holmes, Social Worker I, MSS (Clark County)
3. Amber Braaten, MA, Aberdeen
4. Rose Kelly, County Designated Crisis Responder I, CSNW
5. Eric Sanders, Case Manager-Housing, CSNW,
6. Katrina Ondeck, Integration Specialist (Care Management), CSNW
7. Francis Tarango, DA III, Mt. Vernon
8. Lori Tornquist, SUDP III, Aberdeen
9. Amy Nitchman, Health Educator II, Vancouver
10. Martie Skinner, Phlebotomist, Vancouver
11. Malia Silverthorne, WIC Nutrition Asst Certifier I, Vancouver
12. Erin Adamson, Lead Negotiator, OPEIU
13. Valarie Peaphon, Union Rep, OPEIU
14. Phoebe Feldsher, Union Rep, OPEIU
15. Jesse Holtzinger-Cruz, Union Rep, OPEIU

---

***If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to your Union Representative at [Erin@opeiu8.org](mailto:Erin@opeiu8.org), [Phoebe@opeiu8.org](mailto:Phoebe@opeiu8.org), and [Valarie@opeiu8.org](mailto:Valarie@opeiu8.org) or any member of our Bargaining Team listed above.***

Visit our website



**OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCAL 8**

OPEIU Local 8 | 800-600-2433 | Fax 206-441-0207 | [opeiu8@opeiu8.org](mailto:opeiu8@opeiu8.org) | [www.opeiu8.org](http://www.opeiu8.org)

STAY CONNECTED



OPEIU Local 8 | 2900 Eastlake Ave E Ste 220, Seattle, WA 98102

[Unsubscribe mike@opeiu8.org](mailto:mike@opeiu8.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data](#)

Notice

Sent by [byopeiu8@opeiu8.org](mailto:byopeiu8@opeiu8.org) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!