

Union ★
Update

OPEIU
Local



For Local 8 Members at YouthCare

May 2, 2023

The Union Difference — A Voice on the Job

Retirement Benefit – New 3% Employer Contribution!

Our Labor Management Committee members, Josh Wood, Case Manager Adolescent Shelter, and Marla Moore, former Housing Navigator at South Seattle Shelter, successfully negotiated a 3% employer retirement contribution effective January 2024. Before these negotiations, YouthCare only offered an employer match program. That means those who couldn't afford to put money aside for retirement out did not get any retirement benefit. Thanks to our efforts, YouthCare's benefits are more equitable.

Thank you, Josh and Marla! We have openings on our Labor Management Committee. Reach out to our Union Representative Phoebe Feldsher if you're interested in being on the committee.

Funding Loss at CASA Uno & CASA Dos

YouthCare's CASA programs lost funding in late March 2023. As Union members, we have the right to negotiate over our wages, benefits, and working conditions. We also have the right to negotiate over the impact of changes like a loss of funding. Our union contract has sections providing protection and benefits for those impacted by a loss of funding or layoff.

The impacted members of the CASA team met with management on Monday April 17, 2023 to start negotiations. Our goal to ensure that the impacted group does not experience a loss of wages while YouthCare reapplies for funding was successful. Our bargaining team – Johann Flores-Vasquez, Bilingual Educational Aide, Paola Chimal, Bilingual Educational Aide, Chrystal Rodriguez, Engagement Specialist, and Noe Ruiz, Engagement Specialist – secured their wages until July, when we will negotiate the ongoing impact to these Union members with the goal that they remain whole until YouthCare hears back about funding from the Office of Refugees and Resettlement.

Wage Negotiations 2024

Our wage opener is around the corner! Our first contract includes a 3% increase to our wages in January 2023, a \$0.50 increase in October 2022 and a 2% increase on your anniversary date of hire. We made these increases happen! Our increases for 2024 also need to be negotiated. If you're interested in serving on our bargaining team, reach out to our Union Representative, Phoebe Feldsher. More information to come!

If you have any questions, contact Union Representative Phoebe Feldsher at phoebe@opeiu8.org or 206-441-8880 ext. 119.



OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCAL 8

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