



For Local 8 Members at Samaritan Healthcare

June 26, 2023

Bargaining Update

The past three years have been unprecedented. We, the workers at Samaritan Healthcare, 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 Samaritan Healthcare and our community. Management refuses to recognize and respect our work by offering minimal wage increases despite the growing staffing crisis at Samaritan.

Thank you for signing the petition and sharing it with coworkers. We were able to collect over 225 signatures from across Samaritan Healthcare. We presented the petition to management during our second day of negotiations.



We met with management on **June 22 and 23**.

After presenting the petition with management, we had an in-depth conversation educating management on our priorities: **increasing wages, improving paid holidays and PTO, and addressing the attendance policy**. We educated management on how their current policies and proposals don't help retain staff at Samaritan.

As a Bargaining Team we made some movements as a show of good faith and have even reached a few tentative agreements. However, it is very apparent that management is going to fight hard with us. Our wage and benefit proposals have been met with strong resistance, which is very disheartening, and in many cases their reasoning for pushing back is unfounded.

Management agreed to a Contract Extension expiring on September 1, 2023. However, they are holding any retroactive wage increases, that should be awarded on July 1, as a bargaining chip. This is very frustrating and really doesn't feel like Management is bargaining in good faith.

We were able to schedule additional bargaining dates for July. We return to the bargaining table on **July 11, 12, and 25.**

Please join our Bargaining and Action teams, and our Union Representative on **Tuesday, July 11** from **5:30-6:30 outside the Samaritan cafeteria** for a bargaining unit meeting.

Quote from our bargaining team:

"We know management has been sharing their own updates as well that may not be as accurate to who is proposing what at the negotiation table. We encourage you to share this with your coworkers across Samaritan. We need to stand together and fight not only for ourselves, our families, but our patients as well." – **Stacey Vander-Vloedt**

Union Bargaining Team: Marcelina Alvarez - ER, Nyki Burnham – Respiratory Therapy, Alex DeLeon – MRI, Ana Dircio Gutierrez – Pediatrics, Dorinda Gardner – Central Services, Daniel Luna Garcia – Laboratory, Shailah Meza – Family Medicine, Mona Moreno – Plant Services, Stacey Vander Vloedt – Diagnostic Imaging

Contract Action Team: Pam Akerman – Diagnostic Imaging, Analilia Beltran - ICU, Tamii Brown-Frost – Diagnostic Imaging, Jason Burnham – Respiratory Therapy, Teresa Gonzalez – Patient Financial Services, Belem Lemus – Environmental Services, Breanna Olive – Laboratory, Alona O'Toole – ER, Aracelli Ramos – Med Surg Unit, Jamie Vienhage – Health Information Management

If you are interested in joining the Contract Action Team, please contact organizer Omar Cuevas Vega, omar@opeiu8.org 206-441-8880 ext. 116.

If you have any questions, please contact Angie Wedekind, Union Representative, angie@opeiu8.org, 206-441-8880 ext. 122.



OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCAL 8

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