

Union ★  
Update

OPEIU  
Local



*For Local 8 Members at Sea Mar Homecare*

August 28, 2023

## **We are the Union Standing for Our Clients, Families, and Community**

### **Sea Mar Negotiations Update**



Our Union Bargaining Team: Nadia Thayde Pineda, Maria de Jesus Diaz, Marisela Robles

**We are the center of the union** because we are the frontline workers, home care aides, community members, and union members who help improve the lives of those around us. That's why it is important to take time to make sure our voices are heard by speaking about what is important for us, our clients, and our families.

**Speaking up and being an active union member is important.** We are making bargaining proposals that improve our lives, our work and will help the clients we

serve. Our bargaining priorities come from many of us sharing our concerns, meeting, and talking with one another and participating in the bargaining survey. Talk with one of the bargaining team members about negotiations and stay informed, stay involved.

### **Our voices at the bargaining mean we will address:**

- **Recruitment of new staff** is important for us and for Sea Mar. It takes more today to recruit home care aides, including higher pay, better benefits, and the flexibility to have coverage when we need to spend time off with our families.
- **Time with our families and planning for retirement** means that we have retirement benefits that will support us for years to come and we can afford to live with higher costs of living. Our proposals address rising costs of gas, greater vacation time with our families and future raises we can count on.
- **Higher pay for our experience and seniority** to help us retain current staff and create a way for us to have wage increases we can count on so we can plan more easily for our future and the wellbeing of our families.



“We need to stay informed about what is in our contract and what we are negotiating because it will impact all of us. We are all part of the union, and a stronger union means we are informed by talking with one another. Please reach out to me or any of your bargaining team members to get updates. – **Maria Diaz**”



“I’ve worked at Sea Mar for 16 years and joined the bargaining team because it’s never too late to get involved and stand up for our issues. Our unity is how we make changes that will benefit all of us.” – **Marisela Robles**”



“I am happy to share the knowledge and information with you as we continue negotiations. We get stronger as a union when we share knowledge and information with each other about what is working, what could be improved and ideas on how to make improvements. Standing united is good for us and our clients, everybody benefits.”

-- **Nadia Pineda**

**We continue negotiations** in the upcoming weeks. Our bargaining process and timeline is decided by the bargaining team working to reach an agreement for all of us. After making our first set of proposals, we will get a response from management at our next session.

**Questions? Contact your Union Representative, Jesse Holtzinger-Cruz at [jesse@opeiu8.org](mailto:jesse@opeiu8.org) or 800-600-2433 ext. 140.**



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

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