

**Union** ★  
**Update**

**OPEIU**  
Local



*For Local 8 Members at Crisis Connections*

September 26, 2023

## **Upcoming Pay Increases Effective September 26th with Current Wage Scales to be Increased by 26.6%**

You provide critical services and support to those who need it most in our communities—it is imperative for employees working in human services to be valued for the difficult and important work you perform. The upcoming raises recently announced are long overdue, much deserved, and a significant step in the right direction! We applaud CEO Michelle McDaniel for recognizing the value of your work and doggedly pursuing the necessary funding to provide for more just compensation.

You deserve to earn a living wage that helps lend to a proper work/life balance. While increasing wages will undoubtedly boost morale—as it should—we know that other changes are also needed at Crisis Connections to provide the work environment needed for employees to flourish, such as increased staffing, better support, and additional training. There is still a long road ahead, but it is hopeful to see this evidence of Crisis Connections' commitment to investing in employees and employee well-being. The Union looks forward to continued collaboration with Crisis Connections around creating a more sustainable, successful future for the organization and its workers.

OPEIU Local 8 and Crisis Connections agreed to implement the wage increases now in September of 2023 instead of waiting for January of 2024. We also agreed to maintain the 2% anniversary date step increases corresponding with your date of hire (or lump sum in lieu of a step increase if you are already at the top step). We will meet in early

2024 to discuss whether or not it is feasible to add a Step 7 to the pay scale in 2024. You can see the Memorandum of Understanding and new pay scales for the remainder of 2023, 2024, and 2025 by [clicking this link](#).

**Questions or concerns? Reach Valarie at [valarie@opeiu8.org](mailto:valarie@opeiu8.org) or Phoebe at [phoebe@opeiu8.org](mailto:phoebe@opeiu8.org) or by calling 206-441-8880 ext. 103 (Valarie) or ext. 119 (Phoebe).**



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

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