

Union ★  
Update

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Local



*For Local 8 Members at Willapa Harbor Hospital*

September 20, 2023

## **We Are Bargaining for Improvements That Will Help Our Community**

Our bargaining team is back to a busy three sessions this September with focus on improvements that will benefit our patients, our jobs, and our community. We know that recruitment and good staffing are goals of this negotiation and have proposed improvements to our contract that will keep us competitive with other hospitals. Our work, families and patients all benefit from an improved contract.

The healthcare market today is not the same as it was pre-pandemic. Competition for staff means that it is harder to recruit and retain staff in healthcare, and the increasing complexity of our jobs continues to accelerate, making recruitment for all job classes a challenge that our bargaining team seeks to address.



**"We are struggling to recruit and retain staff. That is why we proposed raising the wage scale."**

**-John Latimer, Radiology**

*Bargaining Team: Casandra McCauley, Lab, Anna MMC Anderson, HIM, John Latimer, Diagnostic Imaging, Kim Fleury, Pharmacy*

**Our proposals move us forward as a more competitive and well-staffed hospital.**

Willapa needs to be a competitive hospital for skilled workers. Management's proposals on September 15<sup>th</sup> showed some movement but we are still far apart in many areas, including:

- **Wage increases that are competitive and help recruit and retain staff**
- **Credit for experience and internal wage equity**
- **Filling in steps on our wage scale**
- **Affordable benefits that keep our dependents and families healthy**
- **Vacation scheduling process improvements**
- **An improved labor and management partnership**

These are some of the main topics of bargaining, for more details, contact your bargaining team members.

Next bargaining sessions: September 22<sup>nd</sup> and September 29<sup>th</sup>.

Reach out to your negotiations team directly:

Anna MMC Anderson, HIM  
Cassandra McCauley, Lab  
Kim Fleury, Pharmacy  
John Latimer, Radiology  
Tara Powell, Lead Negotiator  
Jesse Holtzinger-Cruz, Representative

***You can reach your union representative, Jesse Holtzinger-Cruz directly by phone (206) 750-5056 or email ([jesse@opeiu8.org](mailto:jesse@opeiu8.org))***



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

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