

March 18, 2024

**Union** ★  
**Update**

**OPEIU**  
Local



*for OPEIU Local 8 members at Kaiser Permanente/Washington*

## **Staffing Update**

Our Labor Leaders met with Kaiser Permanente local management and reaffirmed OPEIU Local 8's position that we have a legal right to bargain KP's decision to make reductions in staffing. With several Unfair Labor Practice charges pending with the NLRB (National Labor Relations Board) and a dispute under the Coalition National Agreement, and not waiving our right to bargain the decision to reduce staffing, OPEIU Local 8 has proposed, in partnership, to meet with KP Labor Relations ASAP to bargain the proposed staffing reductions and/or any compensation packages for affected OPEIU Local 8 members.

On Wednesday, March 13, KP management sent out notification to affected departments that the rebid process and trainings have been postponed. While we are hopeful that this is a signal that KPWA will agree to work with our Union, and bargain in good faith, we have very real concerns about their commitment to partnership. Why is Kaiser proposing a reduction in staff while we experience increased workload due to an ongoing staffing crisis? It's clear that Kaiser needs to be continually pushed to follow our contracts.

KPWA Labor Relations has agreed to meet with OPEIU this Thursday March 21st to discuss the proposed staffing reductions. Stay tuned for future updates.

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## **Questions? Your Kaiser Permanente Representatives are:**

**Tara Powell, Union Representative, [Tara@opeiu8.org](mailto:Tara@opeiu8.org)**

*Covers the Renton Campus excluding the PCAC and Membership Administration.*

**Patrick Pedersen, Union Representative, [Patrick@opeiu8.org](mailto:Patrick@opeiu8.org)**

*Covers North Sound area and the PCAC and Membership Administration.*

**Leslie Liddle, Union Representative, [Leslie@opeiu8.org](mailto:Leslie@opeiu8.org)**

*Covers South Sound area and Eastern Washington.*

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OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCAL 8

OPEIU Local 8 | 800-600-2433 | Fax 206-441-0207 | [opeiu8@opeiu8.org](mailto:opeiu8@opeiu8.org) | [www.opeiu8.org](http://www.opeiu8.org)

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OPEIU Local 8 | 2900 Eastlake Ave E Ste 220, Seattle, WA 98102

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