

**Union** ★  
**Update**

**OPEIU**  
Local



*For Local 8 Members at Crisis Connections*

April 9, 2024

## **The Time to Lead is Now – Shop Stewards Needed**

We make our Union strong through attention, participation, and leadership. We've had two recent departures, Bran and Darby, leaving two open Shop Steward positions at Crisis Connections. We're grateful to Bran and Darby for their advocacy in our Union and in our work!

Shop Stewards are leaders in the workplace – they do excellent work and we come to them for advice. These leaders go through a formal training with OPEIU Local 8 to ensure they fully understand our contract and are able to educate and unite our Union. Having active, engaged, and empowered Shop Stewards are a vital part of any successful Union.

Interested or know someone you think would be a good fit? Reach out to Valarie or Phoebe, or attend our Shop Steward and Leadership Conference on Saturday April 13 from 10-4 to learn more.

### **Screeners Re-bid**

Many have reached out to management and our Union Representatives with concerns about Crisis Connections' approach to the Screeners re-bid.

Our representatives ensured that no one lost hours due to this change, and advocated that management decouple the shift groups to allow for greater flexibility. Ultimately

management proceeded forward with their process of bidding prearranged schedules. It is important that impacted staff are vigilant regarding their seniority. While we're glad that management is taking into consideration extenuating circumstances and preference in assigning new schedules, we must also ensure that they follow our contract language regarding seniority.

If you're concerned that your seniority was not honored in the rebid process, email Valarie or Phoebe ASAP. Our grievance provisions have strict timelines so please do not wait to reach out or we may lose our opportunity to address it. You can read more about seniority in our contract in Article 6 Seniority and Layoffs on page 9. You can read more about the grievance procedure in Article 18 on page 25, linked [here](#).

### **Union Representative Office Hours – Belltown Office**

**Our Union Representative Phoebe Feldsher will visit the Belltown office in the conference room from 11-1 on Thursday April 11.**

Come say hello and get some questions answered!

***As always, please contact your Union Representatives [Valarie@opeiu8.org](mailto:Valarie@opeiu8.org) and [Phoebe@opeiu8.org](mailto:Phoebe@opeiu8.org) with any questions or comments.***



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

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