



Oregon Nurses Association
Bargaining Unit Newsletter
September 10, 2015

Providence Newberg Medical Center (PNMC)

Newsletter



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OUR ONA TEAM

Chair:

Valerie Whitmore
Med/Surg

Vice-Chair:

DiAnna Williams
Birth Center

Treasurer:

Linda Murata-Ray
Short Stay

Secretary:

Denise O'Connell
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Membership Chair:

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Bargaining Dates Set as We Continue Preparing

Our Oregon Nurses Association (ONA)/ Providence Newberg negotiating team has been working hard to get ready for our first sessions, which have been scheduled for October 7 and 13 at 9:30 a.m. Representing administration, will be their attorney Dennis Westlind and local administrator and managers Yvonne Kirk, Bob Clements, Julia Floria, Pam Weaver and Theresa Osburne.

We also recently received hundreds of pages of documents from the hospital in response to our information request. The team has been working steadily to review this information to prepare for negotiations. We will be meeting on

September 25 and 28 to draft initial proposals for bargaining.

That's where you come in.

Nurses have been great about bringing issues forward but our team needs your help to capture current practice and identify priorities. In addition to all the helpful comments and conversations, please fill out a bargaining survey (*how to access on Page 2*). By doing so, we will be able to prioritize the concerns and needs of all our nurses.

You can also support our team by joining ONA (*Page 2 for more details*) as an official member! Membership not only has countless benefits, but demonstrates solidarity with our team while bargaining.

ONA Labor Relations Representative Sarah Thompson



Sarah joined ONA as a labor relations representative in 2013 and represents the nurses at Providence Portland Medical Center. Originally from Texas, she has considered herself an Oregonian since 1989 and received her bachelor's degree in economics and history from Portland State University. Sarah has over 12 years' experience as union staff, representing both nursing and non-RN health care units all over the country and is a seasoned organizer and negotiator.

Bargaining Survey: RNs Voice Our Priorities and Demonstrate Solidarity

Thank you to the many nurses who have taken the time to complete the bargaining survey and provide crucial feedback to the team about current practice and what issues are most important to address during our first contract. We want you to know how much we appreciate your time and how meaningful your responses have been. It directly shapes the proposals we will be drafting.

More than that, our ONA team is touched by the numerous offers to help support us at the table. All over the hospital, nurses stated that they would show support by trading work days with a team member to help them get to the table, donate paid time off (PTO) to the team, volunteer to be a steward, attend negotiations as an observer and engage in other activities that demonstrate public support for the team and each other. *This type of unity is going to be critical in winning a strong first ONA contract.*

We have a lot at stake over the next few months. This is our first ONA contract and it will be the foundation upon which all future contracts and our working conditions will be based. Nurses participation at every step will have a direct impact on that foundation. Large levels of participation show administration that nurses are engaged and care about the decisions which impact us and our patients. This motivates administration to make progressive moves at the table, agree to reasonable proposals, and not propose take-aways. Together, we can continue to make PNMC a great place to work and receive care for our community.

For folks who have not yet completed the survey—it's easy. Just select Providence Newberg under Find Your Bargaining Unit at www.OregonRN.org or [click here](#) to take it now.

Become an ONA Member Today!

How do I join? Go to www.OregonRN.org and select Providence Newberg under Find Your Bargaining Unit. Under documents, click on "ONA Application." Print it out, complete it, and submit it by mail or fax. Or simply ask a team member for a paper application and get it back to them.

What are the monthly dues? The dues are \$37.99/month. At the point we reach an agreement and ratify our first contract, the dues will be \$81.25 for full-time and about \$43/month for part-time or per diem nurses working under 64 hours a month.

Do I have to pay dues twice if I'm a member at a different ONA facility? No. Nurses who work at two ONA facilities pick a base hospital for the purposes of membership and only pay dues once.

Are my dues tax deductible? Yes.

Does my ONA membership really matter? YES! As the team enters into negotiations, the more unified we are in supporting them and ONA, the stronger our position at the table will be to make gains in a first contract.