November 1, 2022

Dear American Red Cross Bargaining Unit Nurses,

Thank you for your work every day on the frontlines in our communities. And congratulations on reaching a tentative agreement that will provide a smooth transition for your health care coverage. I know that we did not achieve everything we wanted in negotiations, but I am proud of the work that we did together in reaching a fair contract.

I understand there has been questions raised about changing union representation. If there is an attempt to change representation through the National Labor Relations Board, it will take months before an election is held and concluded. In addition, there are a number of uncertainties. There is no guarantee of seamless transition into an existing bargaining unit with the same contract terms and immediate access to health care. What is certain is that the employer will transition our nurses to the Red Cross health plan in the meantime. I believe that we are stronger when we stand together and am proud to share this solidarity letter from our sister union Teamsters 223 supporting ONA’s representation of the nurses at ARC.

I firmly believe that we all want to ensure that our nurses have continued union representation and continuity of comparable health coverage. I strongly urge a yes vote to ratify the tentative agreement, especially with open enrollment for health care coming upon us.

ONA is committed to doing better and continuing representation of our nurses at ARC. I am committed to continued discussions on how we best advocate for our nurses and work in partnership to support this bargaining unit.

In Solidarity,

Anne Tan Piazza
Executive Director