Hood River Nurses March On The Boss

On Oct. 27, a delegation of eleven ONA nurses marched up to the administrative offices to deliver signatures from a strong majority (more than 73 percent) of ONA registered nurses working at Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital.

Our core purpose of collecting so many signatures and then having a delegation deliver the petitions to management was to send a clear message that nurses deserve a fair contract that includes the following:

♦ A retro-active cost of living adjustment dated back to Jan. 1, 2020
♦ Maintain our current PTO and sick banks for the inevitable health challenges that come with working in a hospital environment
♦ Maintaining the current contract scheduling language so that employees can plan their family lives while schools are providing virtual education to our children

Management seemed quite surprised by the delegation of nurses. Brittany Foss, a bargaining team member, presented the signatures to management. Management accepted the petitions and expressed interest in returning to bargaining table.

This was welcomed by the delegation. Since delivering the petitions management has agreed to meet on Dec. 8 to restart negotiations.
Virtual Union Meetings

Attend a Virtual Union meetings on Nov. 19

On Nov. 19 starting at 4:45 p.m. and at 9:15 p.m., the bargaining members and ONA Labor Representative Timothy Welp, will host virtual union meetings to provide information about the status of the Dec. 8 bargaining session. Zoom links will be emailed out to personal email addresses, make sure that we have your up-to-date contact information.

There will be updates about the ONA’s efforts to get providence to provide “Pandemic Pay” and other COVID-related issues for all Providence nurses, and there will be time for a question and answer period about worksite challenges.

If you have questions or suggestions about possible topics for the meetings, email Timothy Welp at Welp@OregonRN.org.

Self-Care In The Time Of COVID-19

As COVID-19 cases continue to increase many may be feeling pandemic fatigue, especially those who are on the front lines.

The American Nurses Association (ANA) is reminding nurses about Provision 5 in the Code of Ethics for Nurses, which states “The nurse owes the same duties to self as to others, including the responsibility to promote health and safety, preserve wholeness of character and integrity, maintain competence, and continue personal and professional growth.”

It is important for nurses to carefully evaluate their assignments and refuse those that push them to take unnecessary risks. ANA and ONA offer many resources to help nurses through this challenging time.

Click here to read more about ANA Provision 5 Self-Care & COVID-19

Completing the Staffing Request & Documentation Form (SRDF)

WHY FILL OUT THE SRDF?

The Oregon Hospital Nurse Staffing Law defines “safe patient care” as “…nursing care that is provided appropriately, in a timely manner, and meets the patient’s health care needs.” Inappropriate nurse staffing can lead to patient care needs not being met.

The information gathered in SRDFs allows ONA to track staffing data and provide information to hospital wide staffing committees. It also provides valuable information to labor representatives about how specific units are staffed, and can be used to assist with OHA complaints.

HOW TO FILL OUT THE SRDF

If you work a shift with insufficient nurse staffing, you should complete the following steps:

1. Notify someone in the chain of command;
2. Ask for additional staff;
3. Ask for a response in a reasonable period of time, (e.g., minutes, hours) and;
4. Complete the SRDF as detailed below.

The nurse should complete the SRDF at the end of the shift or within 48 hours. The SRDF can be found online at OregonRN.org/SRDF. A PDF copy is automatically emailed to the nurse and to ONA, and it is the nurse’s responsibility to forward a copy of the completed form to the nurse manager and staffing co-chair. The SRDF should be completed even if the problem is corrected quickly.

Questions about the SRDF process? Email SRDF@OregonRN.org