

ANNOUNCING JOINT ONA MEMBERSHIP

LOCAL NURSE LEADERSHIP CONTINUES

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We are proud to announce that ONA and OFNHP have entered into a partnership and dual membership agreement to work towards jointly representing ONA's nurses at Kaiser Interstate.

The Agreement came about in part because of the ongoing requests by ONA nurses to strengthen ties with OFNHP to address common issues collaboratively, including the seniority issue. This Agreement contemplates the two unions meeting to discuss these issues.

Should the nurses agree to joint representation, OFNHP would assume the representational role for the nurses at Kaiser Interstate, although ONA would retain a presence within the Coalition at the Regional and National levels for the time being. As the local representative, OFNHP would be responsible for negotiating the local Agreement that expires in 2012 and handle any issue, resolutions, or grievances that might arise.

Coming Soon:

A get-to-know-you meeting between your nurse representatives and OFNHP leadership on May 11.

Also, we will soon finalize dates for meetings to discuss the Agreement and begin circulating the petition to seek joint certification.

A copy of the Partnership Agreement is on ONA's website along with other updates.

Please visit

www.OregonRN.org

NEXT STEPS

ONA intends to circulate a petition amongst the nurses it represents at Kaiser Interstate. By signing the petition, you would be indicating your Agreement for ONA and OFNHP to be your joint representative. Once a majority of nurses sign the petition, Kaiser will be asked to recognize ONA and OFNHP as the legal representative.

Your nurse leaders will also begin meeting with the leadership of OFNHP to discuss other ways the two groups can work more collaboratively. This could include better representation on various committees that ONA does not currently participate on, refinements to the career ladder, as well as a discussion of seniority between the two groups that would allow nurses to more easily transfer positions.

We also plan to hold meetings to allow nurses to ask questions about this Agreement and to get to know OFNHP RN colleagues and staff. Your feedback is important so please contact us with any questions you may have in the interim. If you want to speak to someone at ONA, contact Alan Yoder at yoder@oregonrn.org or (503) 293-0011 Ext 302. If you want to speak to someone at OFNHP, contact Linda Cushing at cushing@aft.org or (503) 657-9974.

WHAT WILL JOINT MEMBERSHIP COST ME? NOTHING

- Dues stay the same for Kaiser nurses for over a year (from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012).
- Kaiser nurses will not pay double dues at any time.
- After June 30, 2012, dues will be recalculated based on changes in ONA and OFNHP organizational constitutions and by-laws and other factors. To give you an idea, OFNHP's dues are currently 1.4 percent of straight-time pay up to a maximum of \$70.32 per month.
- No action regarding dues by Kaiser nurses is necessary right now.

HOW DOES JOINT MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT ME?

- RNs will have full membership rights in both ONA and OFNHP.
- RNs will have full benefits offered by both ONA and OFNHP, including:
 - Participation in professional development and continuing education programs offered by both organizations
 - Participation in optional membership insurance, benefit, credit card, mortgage, discount, travel and legal referral programs
 - Coverage under legal defense and militancy/strike funds
- Jurisdictional protection under AFL-CIO Article XX and XXI rules.
- Access to local, state and national organizational publications.
- Continued membership in Local Labor Council and the National AFL-CIO.
- RNs will have a voice regarding patient care in a larger setting.
- RNs pay no additional dues to receive dual benefits.
- Unified strength of two influential unions to protect union rights against the current national coordinated political assault on these rights.
- Opportunities for greater collaboration and co-operation with the hope of strengthening the current shared Seniority Agreement.
- Potential for a more unified powerful voice at the Oregon State Legislature when advocating for policies that impact nurses, nursing practice, and health care reform.
- We are stronger together and will have access to greater resources and collaboration than either union would have alone.

Want more details?

Go to the Kaiser page at ONA's website to view the Partnership Agreement between ONA and OFNHP at www.oregonrn.org

Education, Conferences and Events

An important component of nurses' practice is life-long learning and continuing competency development. ONA Professional Services offers a variety of learning opportunities to support its members and all nurses in Oregon. ONA's educational opportunities are accredited by the California Board of Registered Nursing Continuing Education Recognition Program with continuing nursing education contact hours being awarded for attendance consistent with the program proposal.

To view continuing education credits offered by ONA, affiliates, and other associations, visit the ONA website at www.OregonRN.org and select the Practice & Research menu, or contact Professional Services at 503-293-0011 or by e-mail at kong@oregonrn.org.

NFN Launches Quarterly Newsletter

National Federation of Nurses (NFN) launches its first e-newsletter, a quarterly update from your national union on nursing and labor news, and issues that affect your workplace and patient care.

Visit www.NFN.org/e-newsletter to sign up to receive future e-newsletters and be sure to tell other interested colleagues and friends.

Also, join the conversation and movement on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/nfn.org>.

