Contract Action Team Means Strength at the Table for SLCH Nurses

Winning a strong contract for nurses at SLCH is the top priority for this year’s bargaining team. However, improvements in our contract won’t come without a fight. The ONA/SLCH team, made up of RNs from around the hospital who have volunteered their time to advocate on our behalf, needs help from the rest of us to win.

A functioning contract action team (CAT) is our best bet to win real improvements in our contract for SLCH nurses. The CAT is sort of like a modified phone tree, where nurses from around the hospital volunteer to be point people for communication in their unit. Our goal is to 10 percent of nurses from each unit volunteer to be CAT members. That way, the load is lightened for everyone and we can ensure that nurses on the floor (or in the field) are connected to the bargaining process in a meaningful way.

Becoming a CAT member is simple (see training info below) and involves minimal time commitment. Here are some examples of things CAT members in other hospitals have done to help build strength at the table:

- Share bargaining updates to co-workers
- Remind colleagues to wear buttons or stickers in support of negotiations
- Be the “eyes and ears” for the bargaining team in your unit, ensuring that important workplace issues make their way back to the table

Remember, we can’t win without you! To join the CAT, see the information below.

Join CAT for a Strong Contract

Nurses who are interested in helping with the CAT are invited to participate in one of these brief, 1-hour trainings:

- **July 18, 2013**
  - 1100-1200
  - 1400-1500
  - 1530-1630

Conference Room A

For more information contact hauck@oregonrn.org

The Oregon Nurses Foundation (ONF) has a new look, a new mission and a new vision for the future of nursing in Oregon! ONF is a 501c3 charitable Foundation with a mission to advance and promote the profession of nursing in Oregon through scholarships, workforce development and training and nursing retention.

We are asking nurses across the state to make a charitable donation to the Foundation to help us launch the ONF with new vitality and strength!

Get more information online at OregonRN.org or by calling the Foundation at 503 293 0011.
Our ONA/SLCH Contract

Expired June 30, 2013

What does that mean exactly?
The contract will remain in effect until the next one is voted on and approved by ONA members.

Yes, you are working without a contract, however the hospital must still bargain with your bargaining team and still meet with the Association regarding disciplinary decisions. Information request still applies, during this time.

Sticker Day for All RNs

July 16, 2013

RN’s throughout the Samaritan Systems that have a contract with ONA, will be showing their support by wearing the stickers.

Do your part and wear one!

A Message From a Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center Bargaining Team Member

Helen Collett here.
I was a member of the ONA/Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center (GSRMC) CAT team during last negotiations. This was a great experience as I was unsure as to what the bargaining unit was all about. Being a part of the CAT team allowed me to have a voice and gave me the opportunity to help the bargaining team, behind the scene, reach the goals of the last contract.

YOU could do the same for the team this contract!!

This is very informal and does not require a lot of you. Give what time you can. I know that with the reorganization, we are ALL stretched to the MAX. Please help us. Who knows, you may like it so much that you may join the bargaining team next time! I did.

Respectfully AND Sincerely, Helen

P.S. if you have any questions please don’t hesitate to ask me personally.

Save the Date

ONA’s 2013 CE Conference

Nursing CE Day
Transitions: The Value of Nursing in a Changing Health Care System
The current upheaval in the health care system in Oregon is being driven by efforts to reform through the development of coordinated care organizations and primary medical homes, by cutting costs, and through development of differing roles and care givers. At the center of this upheaval, patients and families try to decipher what these changes will mean.

Nurses look at this system as a second-by-second event where care delivery is intersected by systems that are struggling to respond in different ways. Nurses at every level, system, site and practice setting need to recognize that they are not just a cost to the system, but provide real and substantial value. This convention explores a two-part paradigm for nursing: the “value of nursing” balanced with “cost of care”. Speakers from within and outside Oregon will be presenting.

Labor CE Day
More details on Labor CE Day will be posted as they are confirmed.

Lodging
The host hotel for the event will be the Valley River Inn. We will provide details for reservations and a link for a special ONA rate shortly.

For more information go to www.OregonRN.org