Weekly Update

The bargaining committee held our weekly zoom meeting on Sunday, Nov. 20. During our meeting we were informed that the state mediator has selected a day for mediation. As a bargaining committee, we are going to be meeting for mediation on December 1 at 0900 (9:00 a.m.). It is our goal to come to an agreement with management. If an agreement is not obtained that day, we have a total of 15 days to meet and reach for an agreement before a 30-day cooling off period.

Once an agreement is obtained, the tentative contract will go out to vote to full members of the ONA. If you are not a full member you will not be able to vote on the contract. If it is something that you would like to vote on and you are not a full member, please let anyone on the bargaining committee know so we can ensure you become a member and can vote on the contract.

During our meeting we also discussed what the mediation process looks like and agreed to meet in person the night before mediation to ensure our preparedness. Since we are going to be meeting in person next Wednesday, Nov. 30, we also decided to skip next week’s zoom meeting that was scheduled for Nov. 27. The next update will go out after the first day of mediation.

If you have any questions about the process of mediation or would like us to discuss any topics when we meet up, please let us know.

We hope that everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving and stay safe!!

Thank You,
Bargaining Committee
Nurse Staffing: Share Your Story

You play a critical role at the bedside but your stories and concerns rarely get told. Let’s change that.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, you were under tremendous pressure due to staffing shortages. CEOs put profits ahead of patients despite warnings from researchers and frontline nurses. Those shortages have pushed many nurses to leave the field, led to violence in your workplace and caused unnecessary mental trauma.

Your stories about unsafe staffing will help move hearts and minds of lawmakers so we can pass new laws to raise staffing standards at healthcare facilities across Oregon.

Protect Your License, Protect Yourself!

Should nurses carry their own personal liability insurance policy? YES! You insure your home, your car and your health. Why not your career?

A common assumption is that your employer will cover you in any incident that may occur while at work. Technically an employer is responsible for the acts of its staff, but its interest is not necessarily consistent with protecting you. Your best protection is to have your own personal legal representation. Nurses are at more legal risk now than ever before.

Additionally, your employer’s policy will not protect you in an Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) investigation. In fact, it could be your employer who makes the complaint to the OSBN about an alleged violation of scope or law. The OSBN must investigate each complaint it receives and, even if the complaint is dismissed, there are costs to you.

ONA advises all nurses, no matter where you work, to obtain your own liability insurance. ONA endorses the Nurses Service Organization (NSO) because the coverage provided offers the best protection for you.

Visit www.OregonRN.org/NSO for more information. Don’t wait, protect yourself today!