First Day of Negotiations

We kicked off our first day of bargaining on Friday, May 14 with a quick agreement of ground rules and a number of proposals by our ONA bargaining team. We have two more dates to give initial proposals and hope to have a quick, collaborative round of negotiations in 2021.

Our ONA bargaining team proposed:

► All nurses working for MCMC will be covered by the ONA contract. This increases our power as a union and raises standards for our currently non-union co-workers. This would include but not be limited to: Urgent Care Nurses, Nurse Navigators, and Clinic Nurses.

► More equity in scheduling for all nurses in a department: casual nurses should be scheduled or work one weekend, night, or holiday shift per month to remain eligible for 13 percent premium pay.

► Accessible union bulletin boards in every department so we can stay informed.

► Extended illness hours (EIH) begins after only one day (currently three workdays or 24 hours) of paid time off (PTO) for illness — this allows us to use our hard-earned PTO for vacations and other personal time.

► Use of EIH for quarantines.

► Added a new tier of EIH conversion at retirement: 60 percent after 30 years.

► Added Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve to list of recognized holidays.

► Changed required time for accrual of extra PTO when working a holiday from 8 to 6 hours.

MCMC did not have any proposals ready to show us. Our next bargaining session is scheduled for May 21.

Contract Action Team

A Contract Action Team (CAT) member is responsible for helping keep their units appraised of developments in bargaining and helping work with the bargaining team to coordinate bargaining actions to ensure that we win a strong contract.

A well-organized group shows administration that we are unified and ready to stand together for a great contract. If you would like to be part of the CAT, contact a bargaining team or CAT member.

Current list of nurses who agreed to be on the CAT:

♦ Jessica Short (Emergency)
♦ Danielle Cooper (Emergency)
Contract Action Team (CAT) (continued from page 1)

- Jeri Jablonski (Endo)
- Julianne Wines (First Impressions)
- Matthew Cooper (Acute Care)
- Kathy Steven (First Impressions)

Your Bargaining Team

- Judy von Borstel (Oncology)
- Debbie Conklin (Oncology)
- Kathy Stevens (First Impressions)
- Becky Routson (Endoscopy)
- LaRena Braseth (Emergency)
- Shelby Stroud (Critical Care)
- Cori Christensen (Critical Care)

Bargaining Unit Leadership Conference, June 25

Online Registration Closes Wednesday, May 26. Register Today!

This year’s Bargaining Unit Leadership Conference will look at the concept of Bargaining for the Common Good (BCG), how it impacts bargaining in health care, how it impacts our communities we care for, and how ONA might utilize these concepts to further our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in the future.

Bargaining for the Common Good is a return to the roots of unionism – the basic idea of advancing shared interests. We are not just nurses, we are community members, parents, users of public transportation, social justice advocates and renters too! Our employers are required by law to negotiate employment contracts with us, but that only addresses one part of our lives and largely ignores the community members we live with and care for.

Join us virtually for ONA’s 2021 Bargaining Unit Leadership Conference, Friday, June 25 to learn more about the BCG framework and how negotiations can achieve win-win results both for ONA members and our communities.

Existing Members: $250
Non-Members: $275

Continuing Education

Limited continuing nursing education contact hours will be available.

Oregon Nurses Association is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

Registration is open through May 26. Visit www.oregonrn.org/event/2021BULC to register.