We’ll Miss You Su!

Su Mellor, grievance chair, announced that she has stepped down in her position in preparation for retirement. Su has been a nurse since 1976, and definitely deserves a shoutout not only for so many years of nursing service, but also for all her years working for the nurses at MMC to better the working conditions.

She exemplifies the integrity of the profession and rational and intentional decision making to affect quality nursing care. Su often says “When I stand before God, in the form of the State Board of Nursing.”

Su’s alleged “last” TNCC class

Reminding us all that we are accountable for our actions and should strive to be able to explain our actions if challenged to do so. Su will be available to act as a steward if needed until her final retirement planned later this year. If you see her in the ER or around, thank her for all her volunteer work over the years for our bargaining unit!

Your New Executive Team at Mercy!

The results of the nominations are in, and your new officers have consented to serve your bargaining unit. It’s exciting to announce for the first time in some time your executive team is staffed! In addition, there is a range of departments and statuses to represent the different units!
We will be looking to do some “know your workplace rights” trainings in the future for our new executive team members. Join us if you are interested in how to make an impact in your workplace issues, or in learning about how to build the strength of the union!

Contact your labor representative Bridget Lovelace for information on these trainings at Lovelace@Oregonrn.org or (503) 293-0011 x1364

We are ONA

Staffing

You know more than anyone else does the value of adequate staff at the bedside. You know, see, and feel the effects of this more than anyone in the hospital. It is what makes or breaks a shift, and often what makes or breaks the spirit of the nurse on that shift. It drives burnout and people leaving the units. Staffing units so that nurses cannot take meal or rest breaks and so that you constantly fear for the safety of your patient, does not allow you “on-time” documentation, and is not okay. Missed breaks and meals is only an expectation because it has happened for so long that we have been “raised” to believe it is unavoidable and part of the job.

Fill out SRDF’s!

▶ Every time you cannot take a break!
▶ Every time the acuity or intensity of your assignment is such that you fear for a patient’s safety due to staffing!
▶ Every time you have to place a patient in restraints because there is no 1:1 sitter available!

All these are instances of inappropriate staffing! File complaints with OHA if your unit is routinely failing to allow for safe patient care.
Online SRDF Submission

You can complete the form online below. The process does include the following steps:

1. Complete the form and submit.
2. You will receive a confirmation email with a completed PDF version of the SRDF attached.
3. Please either print or email copies of this SRDF completed form to your employer, your staffing committee or PNCC chair, and keep a copy for yourself.

If you do not receive a confirmation email or have any difficulties throughout the process, contact ONA at SRDF@OregonRN.org or call 503-293-0011.

Click here to complete an SRDF

Staffing

continued from page 2

There have been multiple stories over the past three months that nurses are being told that they need to sign off on their breaks and meals in Kronos logs, regardless of if they happened or not. This is absolutely untrue! Doing so prevents anything from being done to fix the problem. Your charge nurses should not be getting in trouble for the inability for you to take a lunch, if they were not staffed in a way to allow you to take a break.

The staffing council allows us a real opportunity to try to change this tune! If you are interested in even just learning more about what it means to be on the council, or what the staffing law says, contact your labor representative.

Education is also available on the ONA OCEAN website, free of charge for members or non-members. Registration is required.

Click the link below to login to OCEAN:
https://www.oregonrn.org/onlinece

Safe Staffing Legislation Update

Have you been following the coverage of our safe staffing legislation? Do you want to know about the next steps and how you can help? All members are invited to join us for a virtual town hall on March 21 at 7 p.m. to hear the progress we have made on advancing this important bill. We are one-third of the way through Oregon’s legislative session. ONA’s government relations and nursing practice teams have many ways you can help pass HB 2697 before the session ends in June.

HB 2697 Update
All-Member Town Hall, March 21 @ 7 pm

Safe Staffing Saves Lives
ONA

Log in to your ONA account and register for this virtual event. Visit www.OregonRN.org/login today!