On July 20, 2017, our Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) bargaining team met with the Providence Milwaukie Hospital (PMH) administration team for negotiations. To begin the day, we delivered our petition showing our unity to address staffing issues, including the acuity of patients, the ability to take our breaks, and appropriate compensation for weekend and holiday work. Tracey Parris from Senior Psych delivered our petition to the administration team.

“As nurses, we put our own lives and licenses on the line every day to make the lives of others better,” Parris said to PMH administration. “At Providence Milwaukie, since we are a small hospital, we rely more closely on one another for support.

When one unit is struggling or there is a critical incident, we all feel it. We have collected over 80 percent of PMH nurses’
signatures showing unity among us. We hope you will meet us halfway because we really are all in this together."

To mark this important negotiation session, Jay Formick, ONA bargaining unit president at Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center, came to the negotiation session to stand with our bargaining team as we delivered the petition. Jay had a message of support for nurses at PMH: “Nurses at Providence Willamette Falls support nurses at Providence Milwaukie. We wish for the nurses at PMH the best outcomes from contract negotiations this year. The unity of the nurses is the source of the bargaining team’s power, and your petition shows an incredible demonstration of support.”

Father Jack Mosbrucker, a local Catholic priest, also came to support nurses at PMH, and he ended our remarks with a prayer and blessing for negotiations.

We also appreciate our bargaining unit members who attended these negotiations to support our team. Special thanks goes to nurses Jan and Milly from Med/Surg and Kristin from Senior Psych for participating!

Both teams exchanged proposals at this negotiation session, and we hope to have more movement at our next session, which is scheduled for Aug. 8, 11 a.m. at the Providence Willamette Falls Community Center. Please join us!

Build Your Leadership Skills in a Cohort of ONA Members

Have you considered building your advocacy skills for the nursing profession?

ONA has developed a new program to help you do just that!

ONA’s Nurse Leadership Institute (NLI) is limited to 25 participants, allowing for hands-on instruction in an intimate setting. This intensive, unique leadership program is built on an evidence-based leadership model and will help you strengthen vital skills needed to advance the nursing profession.

Cornerstones of ONA’s Nurse Leadership Institute (NLI) include:

- Motivating leaders to be catalysts for positive change
- Strengthening collaborative leadership skills
- Enriching and renewing personal values by deepening understanding of oneself and others
- Providing challenges and supportive encouragement during the leadership journey

The NLI is divided into seven seminar segments over a seven-month period. In order to best apply and integrate the information from the NLI, each participant will work on a real-life action learning project. Cohorts in groups of three to five will meet between the seminars for ongoing development and growth. NLI participants will also be paired with a mentor who will help them apply their knowledge and learning, provide additional exposure to the nuts and bolts of leadership, and increase their understanding of the complexities and opportunities that ONA leaders experience.

For more information including dates, times, and application process, please go to www.OregonRN.org/NLI.