On August 20th and August 26th, your Providence Triage Service Center (ProvRN) bargaining team held our fourth and fifth bargaining sessions, respectively. August 20th was a very tense session as we rebutted ProvRN management’s proposed changes to the work from home program. We made the argument that the entire program design should not change due to a few individual issues. By August 26th, management heard us loud and clear - they came back with a proposal that would continue to allow us to work from home on a prescheduled basis! This is thanks to you coming together at our union meeting on August 14th and showing solidarity in our group picture for our last newsletter!

We are still negotiating the amount of time nurses have to come into the call center when there are technological issues, among a few other items. We have not signed off on any changes to the telecommuting program.

Management came back with their second wage proposal:

- 2.25% upon ratification (when the vote is completed and it’s a majority yes vote)
  - July 1, 2020: 2%
  - July 1, 2021: 2%
  - July 1, 2022: 2%

When we pointed out that this is not as much as the other Providence facilities recently received, they said there is still room for negotiating. We will continue to do that! They did not accept our added steps nor removal of the language for having to be at ProvRN for so many years to qualify for steps 10 and above. They reiterated their movement on differential increases, however that was not enough to satisfy our bargaining team. We will continue to press on for a fair wage structure.

We reminded them about an overdue information request response regarding current wage information for all nurses in the unit. We requested that this be sent no later than Friday, Aug. 30, 2019.

They made some movement in:

- Professional Development, increasing the education reimbursement up to $300 per nurse per year.
- They moved to $2.50 per hour for certification pay, which was our proposed rate.
- They did not agree to including our pediatric certification recognition nor the Washington State license reimbursement.

We received indications that management would like to settle this contract in the next two bargaining sessions that are scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 3rd and Monday, Sept. 16th. Please come and observe all or part of the bargaining sessions! Let us know which session you can attend.

Both parties’ proposals will be on the website by the end of this week.
ONA Leadership Congress and Staffing Policy Assembly (SPA)

Oct. 3 & 4, 2019 - Springfield

Leadership Congress
Thursday, Oct. 3

Time: 1-5:30 p.m.
Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Springfield

The 2019 ONA Leadership Congress will provide all current and incoming nurse leaders an opportunity to give feedback on what it means to be a leader in ONA and help inform what leadership will look like in the future. There will also be discussions about potential ONA bylaws changes and resolutions that may be brought to the ONA House of Delegates.

Staffing Policy Assembly
Friday, Oct. 4

Time: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Springfield

Join ONA for a SPA day! The ONA Staffing Policy Assembly (SPA) is an opportunity for ONA members to discuss staffing issues and guide the organization in determining next steps in the fight for improved staffing. Some goals for the SPA are to determine ways to improve regulation of the current Oregon Hospital Nurse Staffing Law and establish priorities for legislation going into future legislative sessions.

ONA members are invited to attend these events for FREE! You can attend both days or attend the day you think is most valuable to you. When registering, please let us know which days you plan to attend. Learn more and register today at OregonRN.org.

Participants of the Staffing Policy Assembly will be able to earn continuing nursing education contact hours.

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

OregonRN.org