

Nurses Celebrate Solidarity during Nurses Week

May 17, 2017

SHMC Executive Committee

- Lynda Pond (Labor and Delivery)
- Nancy Deyhle (ICU)
- Phyllis Hurt (NICU)
- Kevyn Paul (ED, University District)
- Jessica Detering (Labor and Delivery)
- Wendy Nau (OHVI 5)
- Lola Williams (Orthopedics)

Grievance Committee

Chair: Laura Lay
(Mother Baby)

SHHCS Executive Committee

- Shirley Hofeld (Home Infusion)
- Maggie Yokum (Home Health)
- Karen Rice (Home Health)
- Jo Turner (Hospice)

Maureen Smith
ONA Labor Relations Representative
smith@OregonRN.org
541-726-0772

Claire Syrett
ONA Labor Relations Representative
syrett@OregonRN.org
541-953-7736



Above and right: Nurses celebrate National Nurses Week at Sacred Heart Home Care Services, University District, and RiverBend.



Left: During Nurses Week celebrations, ONA nurse leaders took a moment to show their support for nurse care managers (RNCMs) at Sacred Heart, who are preparing for their upcoming vote to be represented by ONA within the Sacred Heart system.

National Nurses Week was May 6-12, 2017, and many nurses at Sacred Heart celebrated with the Oregon Nurses Association (ONA). Special thanks to all the ONA nurse leaders who volunteered their time to make the week extra fun by putting together good food, prizes

for raffle drawings, and ONA goodies to share with their nurse colleagues who were working. This week was a good opportunity for nurses to come together, share our stories, and show appreciation for each other as nurses. It was great seeing everyone!

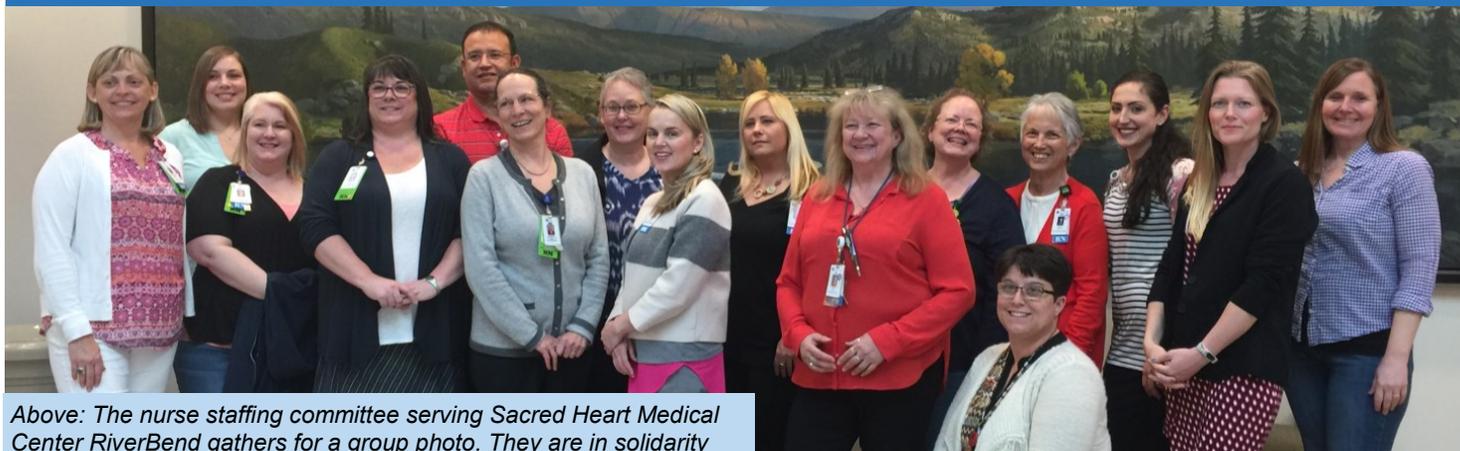
RNCMs Prepare to Vote Yes for ONA!



Left: At a recent organizing meeting, RNCMs discussed their efforts to unionize. They were joined by Shirley Hofeld (standing, third from left), a nurse leader from Sacred Heart Home Infusion. Hofeld shared her perspective on how ONA has made a difference in her time as a nurse and showed her support for the RNCMs' unionization.

On May 17, nurse care managers (RNCMs) in the Sacred Heart system will vote to unionize under the existing ONA contract. It's an exciting moment for all nurses at Sacred Heart—the more nurses covered by the contract, the stronger our collective voices are and the better it is for our patients.

Our New ONA Staffing Committee Stands Together with RNCMs!



Above: The nurse staffing committee serving Sacred Heart Medical Center RiverBend gathers for a group photo. They are in solidarity with RNCMs seeking representation under the existing ONA contract.

A Message of Support from Your RNCM Colleague



Above: Donakay Johnson is a nurse care manager (RNCM) in the Sacred Heart system.

Hi Colleagues,

When my children were very young, I was the sole provider for them. Without much education, I had to start from the beginning. I will never forget taking an aptitude test and realizing that nursing could be the right career for me. As I researched more, I realized that if I chose nursing as a career there would be a slim chance that I would be without a job. The demand for nurses was strong and I couldn't find any statistic that showed a change for

decades. To me this meant that I could not know this is directly related to unsafe care for my children for a long period of staffing. Not having enough staff to properly care for our patients takes away the ability to provide the time we need to assess what our patients' needs are. Without knowing our patients' needs, we cannot create appropriate outpatient care plans. These circumstances lead to patients' inability to manage their illnesses in their home environment and increase their chances of urgently readmitting.

Nursing quickly became my course of study. When I graduated from nursing school and entered the nursing profession, there were many circumstances that I hadn't predicted. Some of these are the following: 1) I would have to stick up for myself in order to deliver safe patient care, 2) I would have to speak up continuously in an effort to not hurt myself while delivering patient care, and 3) I would have to make sure that administration was playing fair with wages.

During my career I have been grateful to have such strong support from ONA. Unfortunately, in my current role within the care management department, I do not have the support of the union.

I am grateful to my colleagues who have been the leaders in our fight to join ONA. I feel that it is vital for us to continue to forge ahead. We are in desperate need of consistent standards and processes that will help us provide safe care. I am unsure how many patients each of you is expected to provide care for on a daily basis, but I have 24 patients daily. This is simply not doable. My job satisfaction within this department is at an all-time low. I

I want to support you in turning up to vote. Unfortunately, I will not be able to vote, because I will be out of state, celebrating my marriage with family and friends. I understand there are obstacles with unforeseen issues that involve the UR part of our department. Please don't let this dim our fire.

I also want to send out a special thank-you to our staff who are close to retirement. Your support is crucial. You have taught us so much, and by voting you continue to show us how to persevere no matter what. I want to thank our per diem staff for hanging in there and voting too. It was important to me to vote. I am disappointed that I cannot. Again, thank you for showing up and voting yes! You are giving us the best opportunity to be heard.

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Sincerely,

Donakay Johnson, RNCM