

Nov. 15, 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)
- Abby Maurer (MOR)

## 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

### Oregon Nurses Association (ONA)

18765 SW Boones Ferry Road  
Suite 200, Tualatin, OR 97062  
1-800-634-3552 within Oregon  
[www.OregonRN.org](http://www.OregonRN.org)



**MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**  
For a better bargaining unit and  
stronger voice for nurses!

## Letter from Our ONA Executive Team In Response to Rand O'Leary's Letter

About two weeks ago, everyone who works for PeaceHealth Oregon received a letter at our home addresses signed by Rand O'Leary, chief executive of PeaceHealth Oregon, talking about the importance of safe patient care and how we as an organization need to rededicate ourselves to making PeaceHealth Oregon a leader in quality and safety.

The "100 percent perfect care, zero harm" goal stated in the letter is a lofty goal. It is only achievable when we have adequate staffing and the right support at the bedside, when the equipment needed to provide that care is available on the unit, and when administration is willing to work with staff, listen to our concerns, and help us define barriers and implement plans that are realistic and time sensitive.

Our Oregon Nurses

Association (ONA)/Sacred Heart Medical Center and ONA/Sacred Heart Home Care Services executive teams' response to Mr. O'Leary is this: Bring the right people to the table when you are having these discussions. Bring elected leadership from ONA and Service Employees International Union (SEIU). Bring staff committed to the same goal as the system leaders. Recognize that you cannot continue to cut sitters and ancillary staff and expect that high-risk patients will not try to get out of bed to go to the bathroom when no one has responded to their call lights because the remaining staff members are helping other patients. You cannot eliminate ward clerks and expect the charge nurse, who often has a team of patients and the responsibility of coordinating the work on the unit, to also be responsible for answering

the phones and performing other duties of the ward clerk. You also cannot ask us to provide 100 percent safe care when we are running all over the unit trying to locate the equipment we need and our patient teams exceed the limits defined in our staffing plans.

Coming on top of Mr. O'Leary's letter, we are now receiving notices from our managers that our units are out of compliance with their budgets and we need to tighten our staffing and curtail future education projects. But curtailing necessary education and tightening staffing threatens the very safety Mr. O'Leary is asking all employees to rededicate ourselves to.

ONA understands that nurses and other staff come to work every day with the goal of "doing no harm." This is the creed of

## Letter from Our ONA Executive Team (continued from page 1)

health care workers at every level. We recognize that working short staffed creates exhaustion and sometimes leads to mistakes. We work hard to have meaningful dialog with administration that will help them understand the barriers to achieving the goals they are setting forth, and then to remove those barriers. It is our goal as we move forward on this journey to ensure every nurse in the Sacred Heart organization has the support they need to feel well-represented at the table where difficult conversations sometimes happen.

The nurses and staff at Sacred Heart

are amazing and ONA is proud to work with you. Thank you for your dedication to your patients and your organization.

Sincerely,  
**ONA/SHHCS and ONA/SHMC  
 Executive Team Members**

**Maggie Yokum, Karen Rice,  
 Jo Turner, Lynda Pond,  
 Phyllis Hurt, Kevyn Paul,  
 Jessica Detering, Abby Maurer,  
 Nancy Deyhle, Wendy Nau,  
 and Lola Williams**

*Maggie Yokum  
 Karen L Rice*

*Lynda Pond  
 Phyllis Hurt  
 Kevyn Paul  
 Jessica Detering  
 Abby Maurer  
 Nancy Deyhle  
 Wendy Nau  
 Lola Williams  
 Jo Turner*

The message below is from [White Bird Clinic](#), a local clinic in Eugene providing affordable or free health care to our community. We include it here

as a volunteer opportunity for nurses at Sacred Heart Home Care Services (SHHCS) and Sacred Heart Medical Center (SHMC).



## White Bird Clinic

Over 45 years of attitude and action!

In the day-to-day activity in a busy hospital/outpatient setting, sometimes we miss out on the opportunity to provide one-on-one care to a poorly served segment of our community.

White Bird Medical Clinic (1400 Mill Street in Eugene) is part of the larger White Bird community (medical, dental, CAHOOTS [Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets], homeless outreach, counseling, substance abuse, etc.) and provides primary care to an underserved portion of our community.

We are recruiting volunteer nurses to staff our Foot Clinic. This is a special program that offers care, on referral from our four providers, to patients with

special needs around feet and foot care. Specifically, you will be trained on procedures (trimming, abrasion, and freezing), and you will operate under the direction of our medical director, Wendy Choi, MD. These will be one-hour appointments, scheduled for one morning a week. Other opportunities exist for "back office nursing" where nurses triage; execute discharge, medication, and lab orders; and provide nurse visits (again under protocol).

Please contact Ve Gulbrandsen at 541-972-6449 or [ve@whitebirdclinic.org](mailto:ve@whitebirdclinic.org) with any questions or clarifications.

**Please consider joining our team!**