Our bargaining team, supported by countless nurse observers, successfully moved the employer to win wage parity!

FINALLY, WAGE PARITY!

With your help, we moved the employer to wage parity with Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center (GSMRC). After 16 hours of bargaining, we reached a tentative agreement on a final contract.

Many ONA-Samaritan Albany General Hospital (SAGH) negotiators worked many bargaining rounds to narrow the wage gap with GSRMC. At 1:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 16, we finally reached wage parity!

Our team is very grateful to the support we received from ONA-SAGH members, including the 75 nurses who shared a selfie with a personal statement (32% of our bargaining unit). Nearly 50 nurses attended bargaining on Tuesday and more than 70 nurses attended at least one bargaining session! Together, we succeeded in our primary bargaining goal: wage parity. If ratified, our new contract will help recruit and retain experienced nurses at Samaritan Albany.

Upon ratification, nurses will receive an across-the-board wage increase of 2.75% with an additional 1.0% in the first pay period after January 1, 2022. At that point, we will have precisely the same wage scale as GSRMC!

We will also receive a 2.75% across-the-board wage increase in the first pay period after July 1, 2022 and another 2.75% wage increase in July 1, 2023. The GSRMC-ONA contract expires
on June 30, 2022. Unless they bargain increases of 3.0% or higher in 2022 and 2023, we will remain competitive with them.

While the pay increases will take effect in the pay period beginning July 5, the employer will be unable to program the payroll system quickly enough for the increases to be included in that check. So, the succeeding check will include all of the new wages and differentials, including retroactive pay back to July 5.

Shortly, we will provide a summary of major changes and a full redline of the new contract. We will announce detail of the online ratification vote soon. Watch your email!

If you have any questions, please contact your ONA labor representative, Gary Aguiar, at Aguiar@OregonRN.org.