Thank You!

Thanks to the many nurses who attended our ONA Samaritan Albany General Hospital (SAGH) Membership Meeting on Thursday. Nurses from throughout the hospital heard the results of our pre-bargaining survey.

Our bargaining team is pleased to report that a majority of our nurses completed the survey this year (54%). That is higher than last year’s 41% and much higher than ever before. Thanks to the nurses who submitted a survey!

Our unity gives us power to move our employer! This good turnout gives us hope that more nurses will be engaged in bargaining this round.

Survey respondents reported these as bargaining priorities:

- Across the board wage increases
- Health care insurance premium
- PTO accrual on call
- Designated break relief nurses
- Fairer procedures on shift cancellation (cuts due to low census)

In our survey, 63 nurses told us they would be willing to distribute information to nurses on their unit. We appreciate their volunteering to help and we will contact them shortly.

Bargaining this round will occur via online virtual meetings. As in the past, nurses can observe our negotiations. This time, they can join via Microsoft Teams on any device or call in to listen from any phone.
The single best way to show your support for our team is to watch bargaining. We will ask nurses to be silent observers. Even a few minutes shows your commitment and support. We need to show our employer that we are united behind our team.

Our bargaining team has been working hard to prepare for negotiations. However, our employer has yet to respond to our messages to arrange bargaining dates. We first asked for dates for bargaining on Feb. 23. We have asked twice since then. Yet, a month later, our employer has responded with silence.

Once we get those dates, we will provide them to you with details to join us via Microsoft Teams.

Our negotiators are:

- Melissa Pfleiger, Emergency
- Christine Holden, Hospice
- Amina Topp, Emergency
- Karen Jantzi, Ambulatory Surgery
- Johanna Bilbo, Ambulatory Surgery
- Kathleen Davis, Emergency
- Shannon McGarrin, Med Surg
- Peggy Wilfong, Operating Room

Each has chosen a specific role to play during bargaining (e.g., notetaker, caucus chair, proposal tracker). Each team member has also selected one or more proposals they will be responsible to research, draft, and present.

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