New Wage Scale Implemented

Nurses should be seeing an increased wage on their paychecks! The hospital notified ONA that they had implemented a new wage scale for nurses. This new scale was to be implemented on the first full pay period after Feb. 15, 2021 and nurses should have the increases now.

If there are questions about wage scale placement, please contact Labor Representatives, Ateusa Salemi or Jessica Barnes.

New Labor Relations Representative

ONA is happy to announce that we have filled a position for a labor representative based in Eastern Oregon.

Jessica Barnes, MSN, RN comes to ONA from Hermiston, Oregon where she has spent more than four years as a critical care nurse at Good Shepherd Medical Center. She was raised in and still lives in Eastern Oregon with her husband and family. Jessica has a passion for nursing best practice and education. She brings both to advocate for fellow healthcare workers, her patients and her community.

She will be taking over the units previously served by Ateusa Salemi, RN as Ateusa moves into a new role with ONA, Lead Labor Representative.

Jessica will be training and orienting to the EO assignment over the coming weeks.

Please welcome her. She can be reached via email at Barnes@OregonRN.org.

OHA Updates Nurse Staffing Complaint Process

Has your hospital violated the nurse staffing plan? Have you been using a system for meals and breaks that leaves your unit staffed below your core or minimum nurse staffing levels?

You may need to file a complaint with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), the hospital nurse staffing regulatory body. OHA must, by statute, perform an investigation of a staffing complaint within 60 business days of receiving the complaint. OHA recently updated the complaint process and now includes a supplemental list of questions specific to nurse staffing.

If you are filing a complaint it is important to note you will need to fill out continued on page 2
OHA Updates Nurse Staffing Complaint Process

(continued from page 1)

both the “Health Care Facility Complaint Intake Form” and the “Hospital Nurse Staffing Additional Questions Form.”

If you need help with submitting a nurse staffing complaint or if you have previously filed a complaint and have not heard back from OHA, please contact your labor representative or your nurse practice consultant!

- Nurse Practice Consultant Christy Simila Simila@oregonrn.org
- Labor Representative Jessica Barnes Barnes@oregonrn.org

Run for an ONA Statewide Position

Serving as a statewide leader in ONA is a rewarding opportunity and a way for you to weigh in on the most important issues facing nurses today. ONA is actively seeking enthusiastic, engaged nurses to run for leadership in our organization’s internal elections!

You can run for office no matter where you live.

High profile openings you or your coworkers can run for include vice-president, treasurer, board directors and multiple cabinet positions including designated seats based on geographic region.

Run for an ONA Statewide Position

2021 Statewide Elections

Nominations are open through March 22.

To learn more and complete your Consent to Serve form to declare your candidacy, visit:

www.OregonRN.org/Elections

ONa Steward Trainings

ONA stewards are the lifeblood of what makes our union strong. A strong union has at least one steward for every unit and shift. Stewards are there to answer colleague’s questions and discuss concerns and help keep every nurse up to date on important union activities.

Introductory, grievance handling and building worksite power trainings all focused on representing your coworkers and problem-solving workplace issues. Find the training that works best for you!

Space is limited so register today at:

www.OregonRN.org/Steward-Training

Introductory Steward Training

- Saturday, April 17, 2021
- Saturday, June 19, 2021
- Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2021
- Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021

Grievance Handling Training

- Wednesday, May 19, 2021
- Thursday, July 22, 2021
- Saturday, Oct. 9, 2021

Building Worksite Power Training

- Saturday, Aug. 7, 2021
- Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2021