SIL Executive Committee

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Grievance Chair:
Aaren Brown (ED)

Membership Chair:
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PNCC Chair:
Rachelle Caughman (Med/Surg)

ONA Labor Representative

Aaron Giesa
503-293-0011 ext. 1370
Giesa@OregonRN.org

Our New Unit Representatives

Last month, we went through our unit representative selection process, and three people volunteered: Jeanna Thurston (S.T.E.P.S. clinic), Meghan Wuichet (Family Birth Center) and Jennifer Haren (Med/Surg).

This group will be meeting regularly to discuss issues affecting nurses that arise in our hospital and working on getting us prepared for contract negotiations next year.

There is no limit to the number of unit representatives we can have and strongly encourage having at least one unit representative from each department in the hospital to ensure each area’s voice is heard in our union’s decision-making.

COVID-19 MOU Proposal

Last week, nurses at Legacy Silverton Hospital joined with Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) nurses at hospitals across the state in proposing an addition to our contract Memorandum of Understanding that makes improvements to health and safety for themselves and their patients. (click here or go to www.OregonRN.org/90 and follow the link)

Some highlights of our proposal include:

- 80 hours of additional annual paid leave (APL) for full-time nurses
- 14-day COVID-19 infection leave
- Reimbursement for childcare
- An agreed-upon process for refusing unsafe assignments
- Testing priority for frontline nurses
- Paid administrative leave for nurses placed on medical quarantine

We recognize and very much appreciate that Legacy has already taken some proactive, positive steps to address nurses’ concerns by offering CSL pay.

That said, we do not want to see Legacy Silverton fall behind in terms of the standards with which nurses are treated.

Nurses at Providence, OHSU, and Kaiser have all achieved 80 hours of additional sick leave in recognition of the risks they are being asked to take during this unprecedented pandemic.

There is no reason that nurses at Legacy Silverton should receive fewer protections than nurses at other Oregon health systems.

If you are interested in knowing more about our proposal or getting involved, please reach out to a unit representative or to our ONA labor representative, Aaron Giesa (giesa@oregonrn.org).
Oregon nurses and frontline health care workers are risking their lives everyday to save patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet, far too many of our hospitals and facilities are not protecting us.

For more than a month, frontline Oregon health care workers and their unions have fought 24/7 for the minimum of COVID-19 protections. Although several employers have come to the table and discussed improvements with nurses, many other hospitals, clinics, and health care facilities have refused to agree to emergency COVID-19 protections for health care workers. After our courageous health care workers helped flatten the curve to delay Oregon’s surge, it is critical that employers treat their workers with the respect and dignity they deserve and do everything in their power to protect nurses, first responders and all essential workers.

That's why we're asking Governor Kate Brown to insist that health care employers come to the table with their workers and get COVID-19 protections in place before the lives of Oregon health care providers are lost.

Sign the petition to urge Governor Brown to intervene in this extraordinary public health and workers' rights emergency. We need every employer to help protect all nurses! Stand with all frontline health care workers in Oregon.

Click here to sign the petition or visit www.OregonRN.org/Petition

Legacy Unity Center for Behavioral Health Bargaining Update

As many of us know, nurses at Legacy Unity Center for Behavioral Health organized last year with ONA. They have had ten negotiation sessions since then and are steadily working towards a contract.

Currently, they are fighting to win some of the core protections ONA nurses everywhere have achieved: a grievance procedure, just cause for discipline, seniority protections, contractual health and safety provisions, and guaranteed annual raises.

They are also advocating for nurses to have a greater voice in patient care at Unity Center.