Our bargaining team met with Legacy Health today to continue bargaining for a new contract, and we made steady progress.

We introduced proposals strengthening our union’s right to bargain over changes to mandatory subjects of bargaining like healthcare plans, APL and other leaves and holidays.

Our team also included Martin Luther King Day in our proposal for paid holidays and Halloween and Veterans Day for equitably rotated days off.

For their part, Legacy brought a comprehensive proposal for the contract including a proposal for everything except for salary and compensation.

Unfortunately, Legacy’s proposal included several significant takeaways: proposing to limit ONA labor reps access rights at the facility, end our rights to attend new hire orientation and discontinue the PNCC permanently.

Legacy also offered their first attempt to address our low census concerns by proposing language that would offer Legacy shift incentive (LSI) and overtime shifts to staff that were placed on low census in error.

Upon further questioning from our bargaining team, Legacy’s attorney acknowledged that they may not always have additional shifts to offer, nurses may not always be available to pick up those additional shifts and nurses could be at higher risk for being placed on low census during the additional premium shift.

Our bargaining team is concerned that this won’t meaningfully address the significant problems with low census that Silverton nurses are facing.

While we have a long way to go to secure a new contract, we did make some progress, tentatively agreeing on several contract articles which will be set aside for full ratification of all of our members once we have a tentative agreement on all of the remaining articles.

In Unity,

Aaren Brown, Emergency Department
Debbie Muller, Short Stay
Meghan Wuichet, FBC
Jeanna Young, STEPS
Michael Koehler, ONA Organizer
Seth Moore, ONA Labor Representative
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.

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 Virtual BULC, June 25

Join your colleagues from across the state to develop your skills and learn about Bargaining for the Common Good.

Mark your calendars for Friday, June 25 for the ONA Virtual Bargaining Unit Leadership Conference (BULC). This year’s conference will focus on Bargaining for the Common Good.

Bargaining for the Common Good (BCG) is a return to the roots of unionism – the basic idea of advancing shared interests. We are not just nurses, we are community members, parents, users of public transportation, and renters too! Our employers are required by law to negotiate employment contracts with us, but that only addresses one part of our lives and largely ignores the community members we live with and care for.

Come to ONA’s 2021 Bargaining Unit Leadership Conference to learn more about the BCG framework and how to achieve win-win results for ONA members and our communities on issues ranging from racial inequities to public health improvements and more.

Registration will open in early spring. Visit www.OregonRN.org/Event/2021BULC for more details as they are finalized.

www.OregonRN.org/Event/2021BULC