Membership Meetings: A Summary

This past week, our bargaining team held two membership meetings via Zoom to inform our members on recent events happening with our union. Thank you to everyone who attended these meetings. We are looking forward to the day when we can have in-person membership meetings. For those who could not make it, we discussed the following:

- We bargained a substantial win through the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that gives us protections during COVID-19, including 80 hours of special use PTO for COVID-related illness or quarantine (full MOU can be found at oregonrn.org/wvmc).

- We discussed the bargaining process and explained that COVID-19 and needing an MOU postponed that process. It will take us several months to get to a first contract and we will need all of you to be engaged and participate in the process to be successful.

- We covered what it means to have union protections even without a contract and what our Weingarten Rights are. These give you the right to representation in any meeting that could lead to discipline or is investigatory in nature.

- We discussed staffing issues, especially during COVID-19 and the use of the Staffing Request & Documentation Form (SRDF) for reporting when staffing is unsafe (find the form at www.oregonrn.org/srdf).

- Staffing has been a widely felt issue, especially during COVID-19 and we have implemented the use of a Staffing Request & Documentation Form (SRDF) for reporting when staffing is unsafe (find the form at www.oregonrn.org/srdf).

- Any time you work a shift when your staffing did not follow the staffing plan, please fill out one of these forms (do it as a full department if you don’t want to put your name on it alone) and send to your staffing rep and your managers.

- The more nurses who fill these forms out, the more evidence we have that staffing has to change and be more safe for our patients and ourselves. Speaking of unsafe staffing, we recommend everyone get liability insurance through Nurses Service Organization (NSO) and being an ONA member means you get access to very affordable rates (find out more at www.oregonrn.org/page/163).

- If you ever have any questions, please reach out to a bargaining team member or CAT member with your questions, you can also email us at ONAwvmc@gmail.com. We have several bargaining dates this summer and hope to make some real progress by the fall.
We would like to sincerely thank you for supporting local nurses at Willamette Valley Medical Center. The generosity in this community is amazing!

We reached our $3,000 goal! These funds will go directly to nurses who were negatively affected financially due to COVID-19.

Thank you again for supporting essential workers in McMinnville!

Lisa Stenson, A Tribute


Lisa was a compassionate, skillful, “tell it like it was” kind of nurse with a great sense of humor. She poured her heart and soul into her patients, her co-workers and WVMC.

Lisa started as a CNA for McMinnville Community Hospital, graduated from Chemeketa Community College in 1986 and has worked in many different nursing roles for WVMC throughout her career with us.

She loved the outdoors, loved to travel and take trips with her close girlfriends, and was looking forward to retiring. Lisa was a great mentor, friend, and coworker.

She was wise, genuine and was the perfect bit of sarcasm that you needed to brighten your day.

She was nothing short of a WVMC legend and she is and will always be greatly missed.