

# **NUHW NEWS AND VIEWS**

Sutter-California Pacific Medical Center

### SEPTEMBER 2017

# WE NEED MORE SHOP STEWARDS!

Stewards are the eyes, ears, and power of the union on the shop floor. They help enforce our contract, protect our workplace rights, and build power for our next contract fight. We need stewards in every department, on every shift.

Good candidates for stewards are those who are respected by their co-workers, can communicate with both workers and management, and can move workers to action.

NUHW also provides training for new and advanced stewards, so don't be shy if you feel that you don't have experience.

We are particularly in need of shop stewards in Surgery, Sterile, and at Cal campus. Talk with your co-workers about who should be the steward in your department!

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Next steward council meeting: Tuesday, September 19 1 p.m.

Pac Conference Room A next to the cafeteria

All members are welcome as always!



# WORKFORCE PLANNING BEGINS FOR CATHEDRAL HILL TRANSITION



Visual simulation of the proposed hospital.

The Workforce Planning Committee met for the first time in July and again in August, to discuss the transition to the new 274-bed hospital. The Cathedral Hill hospital is tentatively scheduled to open in April 2019. Management repeatedly emphasized that much of the plan is still undecided, so the information they've provided could change.

"Management didn't have much to tell us in the first meeting," said Michael

Colburn. "They were very cautious. Hopefully the meetings will be more informative and collaborative as we move closer to the new hospital opening."

Members are encouraged to bring all questions and concerns about the opening of the Cathedral Hill hospital to their shop stewards or NUHW Organizer Ryan Olds. Our stewards have compiled a list of questions to share at the next Workforce Planning Committee meeting, location and time to be determined.

Our jobs are protected in the new hospital. See Appendices H and N of our contract for details.

## STEWARD SPOTLIGHT: JOSH BARBA

Josh Barba started working at CPMC about a year and a half ago as a Sterile Processing Tech.

"I like being a tech. It's definitely better than being a roofer, which is what I did before," said Josh.

Ongoing scheduling issues within the department created a need and urgency for a shop steward. Josh embraced the challenge and recently became a steward for his department.



"A lot of the higher seniority people wanted someone to represent Sterile, and they realized we needed a shop steward, so I stepped up," said Josh. "I want staff to be confident to speak their minds and not be afraid. Hopefully, I can help with that."

Since being a shop steward, he has attended steward council meetings and worked with Rodolfo Balagtas on helping to organize the evening shift. Josh is considering attending NUHW's Leadership Conference in Anaheim — an annual gathering of NUHW stewards throughout the state. He also plans to join the NUHW bargaining team when the time comes.

In his spare time, Josh enjoys motorcycles and boxing, which he's been doing since he was kid.







### **AROUND THE UNION**

More than 50 treatment technicians, custodians, office assistants, and cooks at Janus of Santa Cruz, a nonprofit drug treatment center, voted overwhelmingly to join NUHW in August to improve working conditions, wages, and benefits. Janus treats about 2,500 clients annually with addictions to alcohol, marijuana, meth, cocaine, heroin, and other drugs.

NUHW's rapid growth in Santa Cruz continued a few weeks later when 98 physical, occupational, dietitians, and speech therapists at Dignity Health Dominican Hospital voted to join our union. Workers organized to fight outsourcing and to improve working conditions.

More than 100 Queen of the Valley employees, neighbors, and allies, gathered August 25 for a vigil outside the hospital in Napa to urge management to improve working conditions and patient care. Instead of working with caregivers who voted to form a union last year, the hospital withdrew recognition of the union and initiated a costly legal fight to overturn the election.

Nursing home workers formed picket lines at Briusowned San Rafael Healthcare and Wellness Center and Novato Healthcare Center on August 22 to defend free speech after Brius refused to settle contracts unless we take down our watchdog website, BriusWatch.org. San Rafael workers struck for the day, while Novato workers organized an informational picket. Caregivers are leery of agreeing to take it down when Brius continues to leave their facilities understaffed and under-resourced.



## CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR RESPOND TO NUHW

Helping elect the next governor of California will be one of our top political priorities of 2018. NUHW stewards will hear from several of the candidates at our Leadership Conference in October and vote on our union's endorsement.

The four leading Democratic candidates have responded to our questionnaire and their full responses are posted on our website, **NUHW.org.** 

Be sure to review and share them with your co-workers!

### LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

The NUHW-CPMC was created by your colleagues to facilitate discussions among each other.

Please like, share, and use the page: facebook.com/NUHWCPMC



For more information, please contact NUHW Organizer Ryan Olds at (503) 421-4538 or rolds@nuhw.org.



