



NUHW PULSE

FOUNTAIN VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

MAY 2018

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF OUR FIRST CONTRACT

RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS TAKE ACTION!

Management removed the secured break room lockers in the Respiratory Department and replaced them with open-air cubbies which exposed all personal belongings. RTs took action by signing a petition asking for their lockers to be returned, as well as meeting with CEO Ken McFarland to discuss why management hadn't consulted with them first. Not taking 'no' for an answer, Respiratory Therapists persisted. After several more meetings between Shop Steward Greg Hester, Union reps, and Human Resources, we reached an agreement to convert the cubbies to lockable lockers by the end of the month!

What's clear is that if NUHW members hadn't organized, raised their voices, their belongings would still be left unprotected, and the open-air cubbies may have spread to other hospital breakrooms.

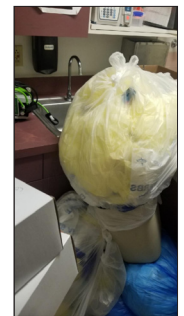
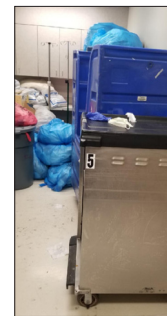


In May, NUHW members celebrated our one-year union contract anniversary! We now have a voice in our workplace!

PATIENT CARE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Our Patient Care Committee had another meeting with Hospital management and raised several concerns:

1. We requested better **Safe Patient Lifting** training. The Hospital is considering hiring a Lifting Coach, and will explore this option with the input of the Patient Care Committee.
2. We requested that **Angel Slider Sheets** be placed in every department in order to ensure safe patient handling. Management said Angel Slider Sheets should be available everywhere, and if they are not — talk directly with your Charge Nurse or Director.
3. Shortage of **linens in the Tower** — again, management said your Charge Nurse or Director should provide this.
4. There is a **huge backlog of broken equipment** and maintenance work orders. We raised concerns about how to address this challenge.
5. We requested **more frequent, more in-depth Crisis Prevention (CPI) training**. CPI training will now happen once a year instead of every other year, and management seemed willing to consider some more in-depth training.
6. We requested the inspection of possible **cross-contamination** that has long been occurring in the **BioHazard Rooms**. If we don't see improvements soon, we will be exploring the possibility of raising our concerns with outside health & safety organizations.



BioHazard Rooms stuffed with soiled linens, food trays, and medical equipment.

AROUND THE UNION

Several new NUHW units just started bargaining recently. Mental health professionals at **Richmond Area Multi-Services** in San Francisco have presented all of their proposals except wage scales, which they expect to finalize soon. Counselors at **Elk Grove School District** just outside Sacramento presented all of their proposals at the first session. And substance use disorder counselors and other members at **Janus of Santa Cruz**, have completed two bargaining sessions, as have members at Santa Cruz's **Dominican Hospital**.

Caregivers at Brios Healthcare's **Novato Healthcare Center** voted 96 percent to ratify a three-year contract that includes improved healthcare and vacation benefits, more sick leave, a performance bonus, protection against unjust termination, and 7 percent wage increases over the life of the contract.

Members at the University of Southern California's **Keck Medical Center** and **Norris Cancer Hospital** are negotiating their first contract as a single bargaining unit.

Bargaining continues for seven **Kaiser biorepository workers** in Berkeley, for workers at Prime's **West Anaheim Medical Center**, and for workers at **Kindred San Diego**.

Bargaining for **Sodexo** workers at **Lakewood**, **Los Alamitos**, and **Fountain Valley** medical centers has been moving slowly, but members are preparing to discuss wages and benefits at the next sessions in mid-May.

And several units are preparing to begin bargaining soon: **The Sequoias**, an assisted living facility in Portola Valley; **North American** nursing homes in Northern California; and three of our Kaiser units — **IBHS**, **Psych-Social**, and **Healthcare Professionals** — are gearing up for bargaining scheduled to begin this summer.

MEMBERS ELECT UNION'S EXECUTIVE BOARD

NUHW just held its Executive Board elections, which are held every three years. Members re-elected Sal Rosselli as president of NUHW and elected Dan Martin as secretary-treasurer. Members also elected vice presidents from most of NUHW's major facilities across the California. Fountain Valley does not yet have a representative on the board. To learn how to become an Executive Board member, contact your NUHW organizer.



STEWARDS VOTE ON ENDORSEMENTS

With the California Primary season fast approaching, NUHW Shop Stewards interviewed candidates running for political office in Orange County who were seeking NUHW's endorsement. Shop Stewards voted to endorse Cottie Petrie-Norris for State Assembly District 74, Tom Umberg for State Senate District 34, Brendon Perkins for OC Board of Supervisors, and Brett Murdock for OC District Attorney.



NUHW members endorsed Brendon Perkins for OC Board of Supervisors, District 2.

VOTE NO ON THE NEWMAN RECALL!



Senator Josh Newman and Shop Steward Ron Ronsano served at the same Army base in South Korea.

State Senator Josh Newman is a United States Army veteran, community leader, and a veterans' advocate, who has used his time as a State Senator to increase funding for veterans and schools. Josh is also a staunch union supporter who has repeatedly stood shoulder to shoulder with NUHW members at rallies, pickets, and strikes. As a result our members have been busy fighting a costly, unfair, and misleading attempt by special interests to recall him from office. Our members have endorsed him again and again, and ask everyone to Vote NO on the Recall this June!

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA WORKERS ON STRIKE



Fifty thousand workers at the University of California campuses struck this month for a fair contract— to address pay inequalities and affordable healthcare. Most of the workers out on strike were healthcare workers.