Payroll has had several mix-ups this year involving worker benefits, hours and compensation. Our union stewards have been active in seeking accountability from Seton and its corporate parent, Verity Health. However, payroll irregularities have only increased since Verity filed for bankruptcy. The bankruptcy court temporarily froze paper checks and has disrupted other forms of compensation, including compensation protected by our union contract, such as severance pay and overtime.

The latest payroll irregularities involve unexplained increases in union dues and the disruption of PTO Cash Out. Many members have relied on the October PTO Cash Out to provide a late year wage bump or prepare for the holiday season. Seton Human Resources says they will follow up on reports of irregularities to PTO Cash Outs and verify what can be paid out under bankruptcy. If you have experienced irregularities with your payroll or with your PTO Cash Out, please contact your steward or union representative John Avalos.

NUHW has been partnering with all possible stakeholders to save Seton Medical Center and Seton Coastside from potential closure. About three dozen NUHW Seton members actively participated in an October 11 community forum held by local elected officials who are working to keep both Seton facilities up and running.

Organized by the San Mateo and San Francisco County labor councils, the forum featured numerous heartfelt statements of support, but local leaders didn’t provide a detailed plan for saving the Seton facilities. Toward the end of the forum, Amiame Fanaika, a Seton shop steward, called out the elected officials on their lack of specific proposals. The next day, Supervisor David Canepa announced that he would convene a working group to “Save Seton” involving leaders from both San Mateo and San Francisco counties. Shortly afterward, the San Francisco Health Plan announced it would partner with Seton Medical Center and Seton Coastside, providing financial support and access for San Francisco residents.

Union representative John Avalos will be participating in the working group and helping to steer the body towards meaningful progress in keeping Seton open.

PTO PAY OUT: PAYROLL PROBLEMS MOUNT

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ELECTION DAY: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Remember to vote in the midterm elections! Our federal government works best with checks and balances. It is essential to our democracy that congress can provide a counterpoint to the presidency. Look for the NUHW voter guide we mailed out a few weeks ago, or see our union’s endorsements online at NUHW.org/endorsements.

For more information, contact NUHW Organizer John Avalos at (415) 359-8367 or javalos@nuhw.org.