

# THE SEQUOIAS — PORTOLA VALLEY

## Workers demand improved staffing and training for managers



We held our first Labor-Management Committee meeting on April 9. Per our new contract, Management must meet with us every two months to discuss our concerns about staffing training, workplace safety, and other working conditions to agree upon solutions.

Approximately 15 workers gathered in Parlor 3 to meet with Sequoias Director Michael Cataldo, Marcella Gonzales from Human Resources, and managers from the dietary, housekeeping and grounds departments.

Here are the points we discussed:

**Housekeeping:** We talked about short staffing in the housekeeping department and the over-dependence on temp agency workers.

**Dietary:** We demanded that management improve staffing and make sure that managers approve overtime so that we have enough staff

when people call out, and put resources into properly training managers and leads and new hires. Anthony and the managers said they would work on these issues.

**Grounds:** Desiderio Iglesias represented his co-workers and asked management to clear up lingering confusion about whether groundworkers are required to assist outside contractors with their projects at Sequoias — they are not.

**Next steps in Dietary:** Anthony Soriano, director of the dietary department, proposed making changes to workers' schedules in the kitchen and dining room, with the goal of spreading staff more evenly across days and shifts. We told him we want to bargain over those changes. We are planning to meet Tuesday, May 7 at 2:15 P.M.