



# NUHW NEWS AND VIEWS

UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland

**AUGUST 2022**



## STEWARD SPOTLIGHT PEGGY BUSHER

Two years ago, Peggy Busher got a “pandemic puppy” amid the COVID-19 shutdown. That dog – an English Springer Spaniel named Barnaby Omar – is now a loyal companion as she and her husband hike the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

“We’re doing it piece by piece,” says Peggy of the 400-mile trail spanning the hills and mountain ridgelines around the San Francisco Bay Area. “We live in Berkeley and we’ve done everything almost to San Jose,” says the proud hiker, whose outings run anywhere from four to 11 miles.

“The fun part is that the dog covers much more than we do. He runs ahead and runs back. He’s a very active dog.”

When she’s not hiking, Peggy is taking care of her 96-year-old

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## PROFESSIONALS GET READY TO BARGAIN A NEW CONTRACT

NUHW members who are part of the Pros Bargaining Unit are getting ready to start negotiating their new contract starting Wednesday, August 24.

Steward Peggy Busher says some of the priorities in these negotiations will be securing higher wages that keep up with rising inflation and housing costs in the Bay Area.

“The access to clinical ladders is still an issue we need to work on,” Peggy says.

There’s also the issue around successorship regarding the hospital and its affiliation with USCF, which continues to concern worry members.

Peggy says the goal is to bargain a collective agreement that improves on the second contract.

“I’ve benefited hugely from that first contract and we want to do the same for others in the future,” she says.

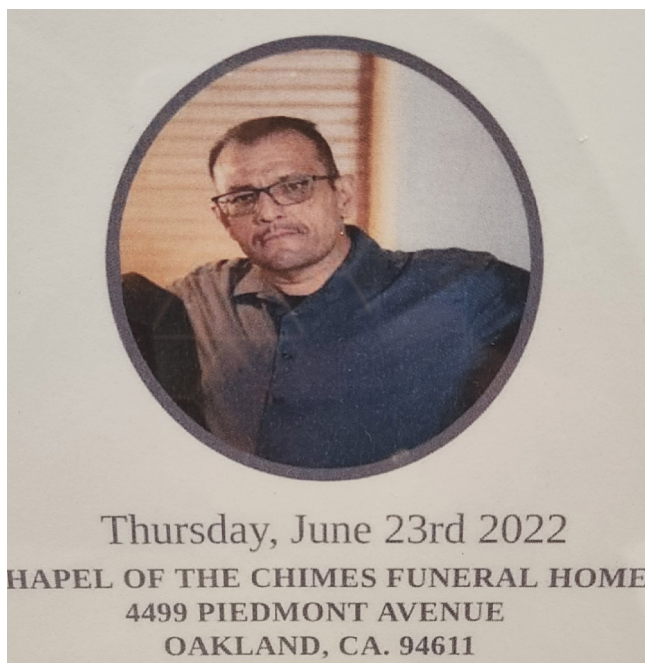
### FIRST BARGAINING SESSION

Wednesday  
August 24  
5 P.M.

## REMEMBERING HUGO URIBE

A dedicated and wise man who always had a smile and made everyone laugh.

That’s how coworkers, friends and family remember Hugo Uribe, a patient ambassador who passed away on May 29 at the age of 45. He is deeply missed.



For more information, contact NUHW Organizers Beverly Griffith at (510) 978-7454 or bgriffith@nuhw.org, or Jake Doolittle at (203) 430-6688 or jdoolittle@nuhw.org

# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

## What happens if I'm injured at work?

The shortstaffing affecting all our departments means we often do the work of two people. This makes work harder for all of us and exposes us to potential accidents.

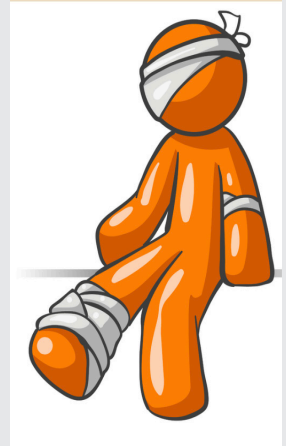
If you are injured at work, you must inform your supervisor immediately and ask for proper medical treatment, if needed.

Workers can file a workers' compensation claim by first notifying the employer. No matter how the employer learns of the incident, they must offer you a claim form immediately

Fill out the "Employee Section" and return it to the employer to forward it to its insurance company. Keep a copy of the completed claim form for your records.

As noted in our contract, we have the right to up to a 12-month leave in case of industrial injury, which can be extended by agreement between the employee and the hospital.

Workers may also use their PTO to supplement State Disability Insurance or Workers' Compensation payments.



## STEWARD SPOTLIGHT PEGGY BUSHER

*continued from front*

mother who lives four blocks away and whom she credits for informing her career path.

That's the same way she feels about her work as a union steward.

"Even though it can get tedious, I really like it because it's so rewarding to see what we've been able to accomplish," says Peggy, who was part of the unionization effort since the very beginning.

One of those accomplishments was getting EVS workers reinstated as hospital employees in 2018 after their jobs were subcontracted.



*Peggy Busher with her husband John and Barnaby Omar during a hike to Mission Peak in Fremont.*

"They were miserable. They were getting yelled at, they weren't receiving the full benefit package," she recalls. "We got a petition going and the goal was to get 400 signatures, and we got 1,200. The hospital gave in."

When the employer tried to change one of the programs Peggy works for, which changed her job responsibilities. Peggy reached out to an NUHW organizer. They worked together on a "cease and desist" order for changing her working conditions without prior consultation.

Those wins have shown Peggy the power of being in a union, something she tries to instill in her co-workers.

"I just share with them that we've achieved a lot. I really like the democratic nature of NUHW and I think it's infectious," she says. "Once you find out what the union is and that you can have someone you can go to when you have a need, people love that and the camaraderie of people supporting each other."



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