

KAISER CONTRACT CAMPAIGN UPDATE

May 15, 2019

Negotiation and Strike Authorization Update

Kaiser told us it will offer a new statewide proposal early next week. In the interim, we plan to publicly announce that more than 80 percent of Kaiser mental health clinicians have given authorization for an open-ended strike, and that no strike date has been set.

Once our bargaining teams have reviewed the Kaiser proposal, they will decide our next course of action. We will keep everyone up-to-date with a communication next week once we receive the proposal from management.

A “Thank You” from Kaiser Patients

This week, one of the families that we helped secure a meeting with Kaiser CEO Bernard Tyson sent us a [letter thanking us](#) for our support. [David and Seong Brown](#) — whose daughter Elizabeth died by suicide last year — wanted all of us to know that:

"Without the assistance and support of NUHW members we would not have been able to get a seat at the table with Kaiser executives. I'm sure of that. Please let everyone know how grateful we truly are and how we cherish this partnership."

Click [here](#) to read the full letter.

Complaint to California Regulators

On Tuesday, NUHW filed [a complaint](#) with the California Department of Managed Health Care over Kaiser's move to replace face-to-face intake assessments that historically lasted 60 minutes for adults and 90 minutes for children with 30-minute telephone intakes.

The complaint asserts that Kaiser's shift to shorter intake assessments via telephone violates professionally recognized standards of practice. It also asserts that 30-minute telephone intake assessments violate state rules requiring non-urgent assessments be conducted within 10 business days because Kaiser itself has acknowledged that a “secondary assessment” is often required weeks later during a patient's first face-to-face appointment. In filing the complaint, our goal is to make sure that therapists have sufficient time to perform a complete diagnostic assessment to ensure quality care for our patients.

