**United Medical Center Nurses Fight For Their Contract**

On December 7th, the UMC Nurses rallied in front of the DC Council to demand that DC Mayor Muriel Bowser submit the UMC-DNCA collective bargaining agreement to the DC Council. The contract provides for raises retroactive to October 2014 and requires the employer to meet with DCNA to discuss and implement adequate RN staffing. The nurses were joined by Councilmember Vincent Gray, the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO, Communications Workers of America, Fraternal Order of Police, International Association of Firefighters Local 36, AFSCME Council 20 and other local advocates. The Nurses also met with DC Councilmembers Chairman Phil Mendelson and Councilmembers Elissa Silverman and Trayon White. As a result of the rally, in late December, the Mayor authorized funding for $3.4 million in backpay and $1.7 million for future raises by drawing from the District’s Contingency Cash Reserve Fund. The nurses are expected to receive their backpay in the near future. However, DCNA is still waiting for the Mayor to submit the UMC-DCNA contract to the DC Council.

**Negotiations Updates**

**Children School Services – RN**

CSS and DCNA RNs met on January 22nd for their third negotiations session. CSS and DCNA have agreed on a 10-month schedule for nurses who want an option not to work during summer and winter breaks. DCNA has proposed a 4.7% annual raise with a $1000 bonus, an implementation of a wage scale based on years of experience in 2020 and $2225 in annual education benefits. CSS has proposed a 2% raise in 2018 and 2019, a 1% raise in 2020 with a $250 bonus, $1000 in annual education benefits. The next negotiation session will be on Monday, February 5th.

**Compensation Unit 13 and Department of Behavioral Health**

DCNA is at impasse for both the DBH and Comp 13 compensation contracts. For DBH, DCNA’s current wage proposal is 4% each year for three years, $3000 for annual education benefits and 24 hours for Mental Health days leave. DCNA and DBH have agreed to an additional $2 per hour for Grade 7 and 9 nurses. DBH’s proposals are the following: 2% annual raises, $750 for annual education benefits and 16 hours for Mental Health days leave. For Comp 13, DCNA current wage proposal is 4% each year for three years, $5000 for tuition reimbursement, $2000 for training benefits, $255 in transit subsidy, float pay for DYRS nurses and preceptor and mileage pay. Comp 13’s proposals are the following: 2% annual raises and $750 for annual education benefits. The next step for both bargaining unit is to meet before a federal mediator to resolve the remaining issues.

**Mayor Bowser Signs School Nurse Coverage Legislation**

We have scored a victory! On December 27, 2017, DC Mayor Muriel Bowser signed the Public School Health Services Amendment Act of 2017, which provides nursing services at every school in the District for forty hours per week. The Act is, however, subject to appropriations, thus endangering enforcement if the program does not receive full funding in the Department of Health’s budget. The Mayor is developing her budget and DCNA and community advocates must fight to ensure that 40-hour school nursing coverage in every school is fully funded in the budget. The program will cost approximately $30 million.

DCNA will be testifying at the Department of Health oversight and budget hearings demanding full funding for 40-hours nursing in every school.
DCNA Supports Family for the Holidays

On December 14th, DCNA members and staff presented a union member and her daughter with presents and gift cards for the holidays. DCNA contributes to and participates in the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO, Community Services Agency’s program to assist union members who have fallen on hard financial times. Thank you to our members who donated presents and gift cards again this year. DCNA also has a Needy Nurses Fund, from which our members may seek assistance. Please consider donating to this Fund. You can contribute by contacting DCNA at (202) 244-2705 or vburnett@dcna.org.

Members Sworn in as Delegates to the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

MWC, AFL-CIO President Jackie Jeter (far left) swears in new delegates, including Myra Hines (far right) and Karen Richardson (next to Ms. Himes). Myra and Karen both work for Children’s School Services as RNs in the schools.

Upcoming Events

Labor Relations Training, DCNA, 5100 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 306, Washington, DC 20016, February 21st, 5:30pm–8pm. DCNA will be conducting training on investigating and processing grievances and other representational matters. Please contact Ms. Vickie Spence at vspence@dcna.org or Walakewon Blegay, Esq. at wblegay@dcna.org to register.

38th Annual Salute to the Black Nurse of the Year, Martins Crosswinds, Greenbelt, MD 20770, Sat March 3rd, 11:00am - 3:00pm. If you are interested in attending, please go to the following link:
http://www.bnaofgwdca.org/events/#.WnIca6py7IU

Please visit DCNA on our website at www.dcn.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DCNursesAssociation.

For Assignment Despite Objection and Grievance forms, visit www.dcn.org.

DCNA is located at 5100 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 306, Washington, DC 20016. Telephone – (202) 244-2705

Martin Luther King Jr.