

DCNA Together – Making a Difference in DC

July 2023



UHS Files Election Objections Challenging the GWUH Nurses Win

On July 10th, Universal Health Services (UHS), owner and operator of The George Washington University Hospital, filed objections with the NLRB challenging the election results, in which nurses voted overwhelmingly to elect DCNA as their bargaining representative. DCNA filed a response to the objections, claiming that the objections are without merit and legally insufficient to affect the outcome of the election. The matter is now pending before the Board's Regional Director.

GWUH Nurses and DCNA continue to organize, building support and preparing for contract negotiations. "We will bring together all nurses who work at GWUH to address issues affecting all nurses in an effort to bring change that will create a safer environment in which all employees work and to provide the care patients deserve and expect," stated DCNA Executive Director Edward Smith. In a further development, DCNA's national union, National Nurses United, has assigned Enrico Maniago, Resource Organizer, California Nurses Association, to assist in organizing, fighting for and winning our first contract at GWUH.



DCNA Elections and Annual Meeting



DCNA will be announcing in the near future elections for officers representing nearly 2000 nurses and licensed health care professionals working in the District of Columbia. The election, once again, will be conducted electronically. Please make sure to update your contact information. If you have changed your home or email address in the past year, please update your information with Ms. Veronica Burnett, at vburnett@dcna.org. The Annual Meeting is set for December 14th, at Martin's Crosswinds, 7400 Greenway Center Drive, Greenbelt, MD 20770. This meeting is always a fun time, in which you get to eat, dance and spend good times with your union brothers, sisters and family.

United: CSS LPN's and RN's

CSS management decided three months ago to change the working conditions under which school nurses are assigned while also looking to adjust work responsibilities under the broad language of the management rights provision of the CBA.

After weeks of rumors and some denials, the CSS lawyer sent us a notice of these proposed changes and asked if we wanted to talk. Of course we wanted to talk and much more:

We demanded to bargain over the impact and effects of these proposed changes and also what we thought were potential material changes to the current and active CBA that doesn't expire until December.

As we prepared and planned to bargain over the next few days after the written notice, CSS stated that the potential changes would not impact LPNs and they did not need to participate in the sessions over the proposed transition to a cluster model.

It was clear after the first session that this was not accurate. LPN and RN leaders made the decision that to hold the line, get the facts and to stay unified we had to bargain together and not separately as had been done for many years

Initially, there were a few bumps among the broader UNION group OF nurses mostly concerned neither LPN or Rn would be placed above the other as we began our collective bargaining process. We eventually navigated these hurdles and became a collective bargaining force.

Now, we don't know for certain what these bargaining sessions will bring, as we continue to bargain and have fundamental differences with much of management's final ideas.

But we have learned we have more power together and are now convinced a union wide campaign with all our units along with our labor and community Allie's is the only manner to secure the kind of wins we need and deserve.

Please join us DCNA colleagues as we set an example for our new GWUH colleagues and how determined nurses United can change and shift the paradigm with mass action.



DCNA Archives Committee

The DCNA Archives Committee held its inaugural meeting on August 1st. The committee's purpose is to document and store DCNA's history, for present and future use. The DCNA Archives will be a place to gather firsthand facts, data, and evidence from letters, reports, notes, memos, photographs, and other primary sources. The committee's Chairperson is DCNA member Mary Jones Bryant.

If you have photos or news articles or any documents you would like to share and have placed in our archives, please contact Ms. Mary Jones Bryant at tall50leo50@hotmail.com.

Membership

All membership applications should be faxed to the DCNA office at 202-362-8285, mailed, or emailed to Veronica Burnett at vburnett@dcna.org. Please include your personal email address and cell phone number. Likewise, if you move, be sure to email Ms. Burnett with your updated mailing address. If you are not receiving emails or physical mail from us, you may email that information to Ms. Burnett so that your profile is update and accurate. Thank you!

Don't Forget our Members Who Need Help

Did you know that DCNA has a fund specifically set up to help members in need of financial assistance? Since the early 2000s, DCNA has provided assistance to nurses and licensed health care workers who have struggled financially. We ask that you help keep this fund maintained. To donate, please contact Ms. Veronica Burnett at vburnett@dcna.org.

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

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

*DCNA is located at 1220 12th Street, SE, Suite G10, Washington, DC 20003.
Telephone – (202) 244-2705*