

DCNA Together – Making a Difference in DC

October/November 2019



DCNA Steps up the Fight for Access to Health Care East of the River

As has been reported for the past year, DCNA continues its fight to ensure that residents East of the River receive the same access to full health care as that afforded to all residents of DC. DCNA recently attended a health care forum at United Medical Center to discuss the need for OB-Gyn, Cancer and other important services. *See photo below.* In addition, residents and activists maintained that trauma services are necessary East of the River – we cannot have people wait for transport to other parts of the District when seconds and minutes count in delivering care that can save a person's life. On October 1st, DCNA RNs met with seniors at the Washington Senior Wellness Center as a continuation of our efforts to engage with the community. We have also met with seniors at Congress Heights Senior Center and the Overlook, a senior apartment complex. On October 25th, a large crowd gathered at the steps of the DC Council in the morning to rally around the efforts to demand full access to comprehensive health services. A number of DCNA members were joined by senior citizens, Ward 7 & 8 activists,



church leaders, ANC Commissioners and union leaders. Jackie Jeter, President, Metropolitan Labor Council, AFL-CIO (representing over 160 labor unions), Edward Smith, Executive Director, DCNA, Elizabeth Davis, President, Washington Teachers Union, Local 6 and Grayland Hagler, Senior Pastor of Plymouth Congregational UCC were among the speakers at the rally. Once the rally concluded, DCNA members and residents of Wards 7 & 8 packed the DC Council chamber for an Oversight Hearing regarding United Medical Center. Once there, DCNA members proceeded to testify about the need to have services such as OB-Gyn returned to United Medical Center and the need for a real trauma center.

DCNA has also produced a short video describing the failure of the District to provide full health care services to people East of the River. It can be viewed at <https://www.facebook.com/DCNursesAssociation> and on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aznbnFF4m9I>.

DCNA Contract Negotiations

DCNA is currently in the beginning stages of negotiations at Department of Behavioral Health, Compensation Unit 13 (all other DC Government agencies) and United Medical Center. DCNA is also gearing up for the 2020 negotiations with Children's National Health System. DCNA will be sending a contract survey to our members in the very near future. We are engaged in a contract reopener on wage increases for our LPN bargaining unit at Children's School Services.

DCNA/Department of Behavioral Health Elects New Leaders

On October 18th, DCNA certified the results of the unit election for the Department of Behavioral Health. The elected leaders are: Chair - Susan Nelson; Vice Chair – Mark Pavlick; Secretary – Veronica Gray; and Chief Shop Steward - Ndubuisi Okoroafor

DCNA Needy Nurses Fund

Did you know that DCNA has a fund specifically set up to help members in need of financial assistance? For well over a decade, 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. Vickie Spence, at vspence@dcna.org.

DCNA Adopts the Wilkins Family for Christmas

DCNA requests our members to provide gift cards, toys, and clothing. Our family of 2 includes a father and his son (whose mom recently passed away). Donations are tax-deductible through the Community Services Agency, Metropolitan Labor Council, AFL-CIO. See the list below for clothing sizes along with gift ideas for each family member:

Davis (adult male)

Clothes: Pants - Size: 32x32; Shirts: Medium
Gift Cards

Kisean (Age: 5)

Clothes: Size: 5T-6 (Boys)
Gift Ideas: Clothes, Hat, Gloves, Roblox Related Toys, Slime, Camping Related Items; Sports, Gift Cards to purchase school uniforms (shirts: \$15; Pants: \$20)

You can bring your donations to the **DCNA Annual Meeting** on December 12th (if confirmed) or to the DCNA office. **NOTE:** In order to receive a tax receipt, you must provide your name and the dollar value of your gift when dropping off. Tax receipts will be mailed after the Annual Meeting. Please contact Ms. Vickie Spence at 202-244-2705 or at Vspence@dcna.org with questions or to arrange for gift drop-off (if not confirmed for the Annual Meeting). Thanks for your willingness to help those who are in need!

Upcoming Events

Saturday, December 20th, 6:30-9:00pm, DCNA Holiday Party for Children East of the River. The Rise Center, 2730 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE, Washington, DC 20032.

DCNA will be collecting toys and gifts for children at locations to be announced and we will have music, food and Santa said he may be coming, as well. We also hope to provide blood pressure screening. If you wish to volunteer or attend, please contact Ed Smith at esmith@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 5100 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 306,
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Happy Holidays

