

DCNA Together – Making a Difference in DC

May 2015



Negotiation Updates

Compensation Unit 13/Dept. of Behavioral Health

The DCNA membership in Compensation Unit 13 and the Department of Behavioral Health both recently voted to ratify the Compensation Agreements, providing 3% annual wage increases in Fiscal Years 2015, 2016 and 2017. We are now awaiting Mayoral submission of the Agreements to the DC Council.

Children's School Services

DCNA and CSS met on May 4th and May 26th and discussed numerous working conditions issues and began to discuss pay. On May 26th, CSS finally made a wage offer: no wage increase for 2014 and only 2% for 2015. The parties remain deadlocked over the definition of seniority and CSS refuses to agree to DCNA proposals which create a Shared Nursing Leadership committee, restore RNs' right to picket during the term of the contract and grant DCNA the right to negotiate over management changes in working conditions during the life of the contract. The parties are scheduled to return to the bargaining table on May 29 and June 8, 2015.

United Medical Center (Not for Profit Hosp. Corp.)

DCNA and management met on March 4, March 16, April 7 and April 21. Management continues to propose cuts in differential and on-call pay, the elimination of retention pay bonuses and meager pay raises linked to the hospital's performance goals. DCNA is currently in the process of determining the cost of our wage proposal. Once completed and provided to management, the parties will head back to the bargaining table. This should occur in late June or early July.



DCNA Leaders Attend NNU Executive Council Meeting

On May 20-21, DCNA leaders travelled to Chicago, Illinois to meet with national union leaders and representatives from other affiliates within the organization, including Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, the Department of Veterans Affairs and California. Sandra Falwell, DCNA At-Large Board member and NNU Executive Council member, presented the DCNA report. Ms. Falwell reported that DCNA reached agreements for new contracts at Children's National Medical Center (2014), the Department of Behavioral Health and Agencies in the Government of the District of Columbia. She also advised that DCNA is arbitrating a pay dispute with the DBH which may result in an award of over \$ 500,000. DCNA is preparing for testimony on a RN/Patient ratio bill before the DC Council. Finally, she reported that DCNA has increased the amount of RN union representatives at work locations by 33% in the past year.

DCNA President, LaKisha Little, DCNA Secretary, Ignacia Joyner and DCNA Executive Director, Edward J. Smith, also attended the meeting.

Upcoming Events:

Testimony before the DC Council, Thursday, June 11th, 9 am. DCNA is scheduled to testify before the Committee on Business, Consumer & Regulatory Affairs in support of the "Safe Working Conditions for Healthcare Workers Act of 2015." Please come to the DC Council to support this fight. Let the District and our elected leaders know how important RN staffing is to protect the lives of patients. Please contact Wala Blegay at wblegay@dcna.org if you are interested in attending or assisting DCNA in any way on this issue.

Labor Relations Seminar, DCNA, 5100 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 306, Washington, DC 20016, July 15th, 10:00 am – 2:30 pm. If you are interested in becoming a representative for your local unit or desire additional training as an existing representative or official, please contact Walakewon Blegay, Esq. at wblegay@dcna.org to register.

AFL-CIO Labor Night at the Nationals, Friday, July 17th, 7:05 pm. Tickets are still just \$10 with proceeds going to the Community Services Agency. If you registered, now is the time to pay for your tickets. Contact Vickie Spence at vspence@dcna.org.

Fun times at Nurse's Week – DCNA Members Enjoy Medieval Times (May 7th)



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