

IN SOLIDARITY WITH NURSES

We are in solidarity with nurses at Northwell Health Staten Island University Hospital (SIUH) who are fighting for patient safety, a fair contract, dignity and respect. Northwell Health must commit to safe, quality care for every community it serves.

At a time when hospital CEO pay is out of control, with seven-figure salaries and Wall Street type bonuses, there is no excuse not to pay nurses what they deserve and maintain their family sustaining benefits.

By agreeing to a strong contract with safe staffing and fair wages and benefits – we can further address the health and safety needs of our neighborhoods.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the severity of patient illness has increased, but healthcare staffing has not. Staten Island is facing a healthcare staffing crisis, and Northwell must do everything it can to recruit and retain enough qualified nurses to safely care for patients. That means providing fair competitive wages to attract and reward our dedicated healthcare heroes. It means improving working conditions by setting and adhering to safe and enforceable staffing standards. It means ensuring healthcare workers who put their lives on the line caring for others can access healthcare and other benefits when they need them.

Too many SIUH nurses are leaving Staten Island to find nursing jobs in the other four boroughs. Nurses are dedicated to serving their Staten Island community but are being pushed to seek other opportunities because of SIUH's lower pay and unsafe staffing levels. Staten Island is the only borough without an acute care public hospital. Given Northwell-SIUH's near monopoly on healthcare on Staten Island, our community's care will continue to suffer until pay and unsafe staffing levels are fixed.

We call on Northwell to agree to strong and enforceable safe staffing standards that ensure quality care in our communities on Staten Island. Providing safe working conditions where nurses can thrive and deliver quality care is essential to retaining enough nurses for safe staffing. Northwell is investing in expanding and upgrading the space in its other hospitals and buying up other healthcare giants like Connecticut-based Nuvance Health, but it also needs to invest in expanding its workforce to meet our Staten Island healthcare needs.

Nurses protected New York's most vulnerable people during years of the COVID-19 pandemic – now is the time to respect and support their service. NYSNA nurses took the extraordinary step of authorizing a strike if a fair contract settlement cannot be reached. We understand that this would be a last resort and that the healthcare workers would rather stay on the job caring for their patients.

We urge you to agree with the SIUH NYSNA nurses' just demands and negotiate a fair contract. We see fulfilling these demands as a pathway to protecting the health and safety of Staten Island.

32BJ SEIU

Amalgamated Transit Union Local 726

District Council 9, IUPAT

District Council 37, A.F.S.C.M.E

Doctors Council SEIU

Committee of Interns & Residents-SEIU

Communication Workers of America, District 1

Laborers' Local 79

Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW

New York City Deputy Sheriffs Association

New York City District Council of Carpenters

New York Hotel and Gaming Trades Council

Professional Staff Congress CUNY

Public Employees Federation

RWDSU (Retail, Wholesale, and Department Store Union)

Teamsters Local 804

Transport Workers Union Local 100

UFCW Local 1500

Uniformed EMTs, Paramedics & Fire Inspectors Local 2507 AFSCME DC37

United Auto Workers Region 9A

United University Professions: UUP

Uniformed EMS Officers Union Local 3621 FDNY

Uniformed Fire Alarm Dispatchers Benevolent Association FDNY

Uniformed Firefighters Association FDNY

Workers United NY NJ Regional Joint Board a/w SEIU

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