

MAR 13
2013

UNION UPDATE



Contract meetings scheduled at 192 worksites

Members will provide critical input, shape priorities

Local 1000 has scheduled 192 workplace meetings to offer members an opportunity to make their voices heard and to share their priorities for the upcoming contract negotiations.

The meetings, which take place March 13 through March 15 will explain the bargaining process and allow members to fill out a comprehensive bargaining survey.

“These workplace meetings are the last chance our members will have to give input in person and connect with the bargaining team before we go to the table,” said Margarita Maldonado, vice president for bargaining.

The workplace meeting schedule is starting just as our 2013 Contract Tour winds down with meetings in El Centro tonight, Buena Park and Redding on Thursday, before ending in Sacramento on Saturday. A complete schedule of all 192 worksite meetings is available online at seiu1000.org

Member input critical

More than 1,500 people have attended town hall meetings where Local 1000’s statewide officers and elected bargaining team members listened to com-



Bargaining Unit chairs: From left to right Miguel Cordova, Unit 21; George Cornell, Unit 11 vice chair; Kim Cowart, Unit 17; Brenda Modkins, Unit 1; Sophia Perkins, Unit 4.

ments, answered questions and discussed priorities with state employees in different regions of California.

“I came here and brought my coworkers to talk to our bargaining team in person,” said Zena Anderson, a

steward at the California School for the Deaf in Fremont who arranged for 40 of her coworkers to attend the Oakland town hall meeting on March 2. “I felt that we were listened to, and I learned a lot about the process. Now, I’m ready to support our bargaining team because that is the best way to ensure our future.”

At each town hall meeting, members fill out detailed surveys on bargaining priorities. Even as the workplace meetings continue, our bargaining team is already compiling survey results from prior meetings.

Later this month, our Statewide Bargaining Advisory Committee (SBAC) will meet to formulate conceptual bargaining proposals in anticipation of the start of negotiations in April.

“These workplace meetings are the last chance our members will have to give input in person and connect with the bargaining team before we go to the table.”

—Margarita Maldonado
Vice President for Bargaining

Attend a meeting at your worksite!

Meeting schedule available online at seiu1000.org

Receive instant updates from your bargaining team:

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Text 1000 to PURPLE (787753)

Standard text messaging rates may apply.

Local 1000 secures options for prison health employees

New agreement will reduce layoffs, allowing many employees to transfer

Under a new agreement reached with the state, members at California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS) facilities who were scheduled for layoff have additional options for transfer and transition.

Local 1000's team negotiated an agreement that substantially reduces the total number of layoffs while protecting the rights of employees whose jobs and work schedules will be impacted by major personnel changes at CCHCS.

"We saved many jobs by pressing the state to take a different approach," said Kim Cowart, chair of Bargaining Unit 17. "This is a comprehensive solution that also helps those members indirectly affected by layoffs."

Layoffs mitigated or avoided

The head of California's prison health care services, Clark Kelso, had originally planned to lay off 594 employees from various correctional health facilities around the state by March 31. That number has been reduced to 344.

Local 1000's agreement will reduce the layoff numbers even more, because many of the affected workers will be absorbed into CCHCS positions at a new health care facility in Stockton run jointly by CCHCS and the Department of State Hospitals, (formerly Department of Mental Health).

The new Stockton facility is scheduled to fill 263 CCHCS positions between July and December.

Employees who are able to transfer to Stockton will be able to use up vacation and other leave time as well as take an unpaid leave of absence to bridge the time between March 31 and the start of their job in Stockton.

"We've saved many jobs by pressing the state to take a different approach."

—Kim Cowart
Bargaining Unit 17
Chair & nurse at Napa State Hospital



"We really pressed the state to be creative in helping our members to stay employed," said Sophia Perkins, chair of Bargaining Unit 4, which had the most affected members. "This agreement helps a lot of people."

Other highlights of the agreement include:

- Protected leaves, recruitment and retention differentials as well as re-employment rights
- Accelerated post-and-bid scheduling process for medical personnel
- Guaranteed opportunities to use up PLP time before your layoff – or receive cash instead

Read more about the CCHCS agreement online

For more details about the agreement, including a how-to guide, go to seiu1000.me/W6oBSE

Resource Center

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