



Oregon Nurses Association  
Bargaining Unit Newsletter

July 8, 2015

St. Charles Medical Center - Bend (STCB)

# Bargaining Update 13



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## ONA Officers:

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Charlie Berman, RN, IMCU

### Alternate

Alison Field, RN, FBC

## Negotiating Team

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Joe Sack, RN

Judy Gage-Scott, RN

Angie Streeter, RN

Alison Field, RN

Andrea Rombach, RN

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## STCB Bargaining Update 13 June 30 and July 1, 2015

### Our Contract Expires

After two long bargaining days Tuesday, June 30 and Wednesday, July 1, we were unable to reach an agreement that we could recommend to the bargaining unit despite significant progress. Our next scheduled bargaining date will be Thursday, July 16.

In accordance with certain ground rules we agreed upon with St. Charles at the onset of these negotiations, we will not be providing any specifics on what has been discussed at the table. This is predicated on both teams making 'supposals' at the table and not 'proposals', which are not binding to either party. This has been a positive approach for both teams and has allowed us to make progress these past two days.

Despite both teams working hard until around 11 p.m., July 1, we agreed to maintain all current 'supposals' on the table and reschedule another bargaining day. Both teams agreed that we were committed to working out our differences without mediation at this time. However, Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) nurses are now working under the provisions of an expired contract and St. Charles already indicated that they would not provide any agreed upon raises retroactively. So, mediation remains an option if we are unable to reach an agreement soon.

Please continue to support the team by wearing the **Healthy not just Wealthy** buttons. St. Charles is a very **Wealthy** organization. However, St. Charles appears to be sloganeering with its Vision Statement: **Creating America's Healthiest Community, Together.**

Every day the majority of nursing units remain understaffed compromising the

**Health** of our patients. St.

Charles routinely does not provide nurses with rest and meal periods, as stated by federal law, which compromises the nurses Health. St. Charles has proposed an increased cost to access our **health benefits**. We want St. Charles actions to speak louder than a few catchy words in a Vision Statement. We want St. Charles to truly be "**Healthy not just Wealthy**" and work **Together** with ONA nurses to truly **Create America's Healthiest Community**.

Please read the [special economic newsletter](#) that was sent electronically and is available on all nursing units in print. The bottom line is that **St. Charles can afford to** provide nurses with a **real raise**, not a wage increase consumed by



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premium cost shifting and a Consumer Price Index likely averaged around 2.15 percent. St. Charles can afford to provide nurses with **health insurance** and not make us pay more and more every year. St. Charles can afford to provide nurses with adequate **earned time off** (ETO), and not force nurses to come to work sick because they don't accrue enough ETO to cover vacation and sick time. St. Charles can afford to provide a **short term disability** program that doesn't financially devastate nurses when they have a **health issue** and must use the "benefit".

*Lastly, we are very grateful to live in a country and the state of Oregon where we have collective*

**bargaining.** To be part of a union that affords us a safe opportunity to confront our employer when we don't agree on patient care issues, or nurse staffing, or how we are compensated, or not living up to their own self prescribed Vision Statement: Creating America's Healthiest Community, Together.

We hope you had a safe and fun 4th of July holiday celebrating our countries independence.

In Solidarity,

ONA/St. Charles Bend Negotiating Team

## ONA BARGAINING UNIT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

### Powering Up: Challenges & Opportunities

Friday, September 18, 2015  
Holiday Inn Portland South in  
Wilsonville, OR

Please mark your calendars and plan on joining us for the 2015 Annual ONA Bargaining Unit Leadership Conference this fall. This year's leadership conference, "Powering Up: Challenges and Opportunities," will be Friday, Sept. 18, 2015, at the Holiday Inn in Wilsonville. We are excited to present a day of educational sessions focused on strengthening our bargaining units and honing collective bargaining skills, positioning ONA and nurses to be ready for future challenges and to capitalize on opportunities as they arise.

#### Who Can Attend

This conference is specifically for ONA Professional Union Members who are either currently in leadership positions (BU executive team, PNCC members, Staffing Committee members) or those who are interested in taking a more active role in their bargaining unit. ONA Student Affiliate Members are also welcome to attend.

#### Continuing Education

This program is pending approval by Oregon Nurses Association, CEARP # 301.06.2015 for continuing nursing education contact hours. ONA is an accredited provider approved by Cal BRN, Provider #15089.

#### Schedule

[Click here](#) for a tentative schedule of the day. A more detailed schedule and agenda will be posted and provided to attendees before the event.

#### Registration

Registration will open Friday, June 26 at noon and will close on Friday, Sept. 11 at 4 p.m.

#### Hotel/Lodging

ONA has a block of rooms reserved for those attendees who are traveling over 100 miles to attend the conference.

[Click here to reserve your room at Holiday Inn Portland South/Wilsonville](#)

If you have questions or want to know if you qualify for a room, please contact Linda Sidney at [sidney@oregonrn.org](mailto:sidney@oregonrn.org) or by phone at (503) 293-0011 ext 319.

Go to: [www.OregonRN.org](http://www.OregonRN.org) and click on News and Events for more information.