Nurses Call for a Safer, Healthier Workplace

Bargaining Update #17 – September 12, 2017

At our seventeenth bargaining session, the CNA Bargaining Team put forward two proposals to make our hospitals, clinics, and worksites safer for nurses and patients. The first proposal would re-establish a network of RN/NP Safety Liaisons across Northern California, who would have the time and ability to work towards a healthy, safe, and violence-free workplace. The Safety Liaison proposal is based on a model which was agreed upon by CNA and Kaiser in 2002 negotiations, and continues to exist in some locations. The second proposal seeks to address and reduce incidents of workplace violence by establishing the following:

- Workplace Violence Code Response Teams in Medical Centers and outpatient facilities to respond to patients or family members who are engaging in violent or threatening behavior.
- A banner in the electronic medical record system to identify patients with a history of violence or threats of violence, so that RNs/NPs will be alerted prior to entering the room or home of a patient.
- A list of resources, medical services, and leave for nurses who experience workplace violence.

CNA made a counter in response to Kaiser’s electronic posting proposal that would require Kaiser to upgrade its internet job site so nurses can submit automatic/open bids electronically. In addition, CNA demanded a review of pre-screening questions so that nurses are not wrongly disqualified from posted positions. Lastly, CNA proposed that Kaiser provide additional training for nurses on electronic bidding.

Our next bargaining session will take place on Thursday, September 14.