

UW Says NO to Our Training Fund

Management said they “won’t entertain the idea of the Training Fund,” one of the monetary takeaways they proposed in our first day of bargaining.

The Training Fund not only improves patient care, but is good for the hospital’s retention and recruitment. We cannot let them take it away, so we must show our strength and unity. If you haven’t yet, sign the unity petition, and next Tuesday we’ll sticker up to tell UW management, “Our Training Fund = Quality Patient Care!”



“The Training Fund is changing my life. Growing up in a lower socioeconomic status, I absolutely never thought I would get any type of higher education, just like my parents and their parents. The Training Fund not only gives me the financial means to attend a college of my choice, but it also gives me so much more, the

confidence to want to succeed. Because of the Training Fund, I will be graduating with my Associate’s degree in science in a few weeks and starting a Bachelor program in nursing this fall at Seattle University. Management thinks it is a waste of money and wants to do away with it altogether. We must show them that we are united around the Training Fund, and we will do what it takes to keep it.”

Carolann Rein, CNA/Secretary, Float Pool



“My fellow union members, management wants to cut our Training Fund, and we have to respond together and say, ‘No!’ The Training Fund has allowed me to earn a higher degree which gives me financial stability to support my family. And I look forward to more educational achievements that won’t be possible without it! I urge you

all to sign the unity petition to show our strength.”

Kenneth Mburu, Respiratory Therapist



“Last bargaining session, as a union, we fought for the ‘\$15’ minimum wage across all of our contracts including this one. Now with the increasing cost of medical care, loss of our 401K matching and requirement to contribute to PERS, the Training Fund might be the difference between

paying the rent, the electricity bill, and feeding my family. We have to show management we will fight for our families.”

Patrick Cassidy, Radiology Tech, SEIU 1199NW Executive Board Member



“Nearly all of the reasons I chose to work at NWH might be taken away — like a chance for career development via the Training Fund and the ample vacation days, so I can spend time with my family and take care of myself. This makes me think that after the transition, maybe NWH isn’t the place for me after all. We have to tell

management that these things are deal breakers to us.”

Amanda Patterson, CNA, Medical



“We didn’t ask for this merger. You’re going to be worse off than you are today if we accept what management is offering. They speak certain words but their actions are just the opposite. We need to stay strong and unite for action.”

Genevieve Sanford, Ultrasonographer, SEIU 1199NW Executive Board Member



“We can’t wait for an inflexible management to know what we need. Let’s show them we are serious with a show of united support.”

Jenny Slater, Social Worker, MSE



“You shouldn’t lose money to keep your job, to have the privilege of staying employed. Over and over again they said their intention is to ‘stabilize Northwest’ and to them that means to take away from the employees. We must fight for our lives and the lives of our patients.”

Jessica Riddle,

Physical Therapy Admin. Assistant, SEIU Healthcare 1199NW Executive Board Member



“In order to provide excellent patient-centered care, we need to continue to develop professionally and to keep up in our field of expertise. The Training Fund is a vital part of keeping Northwest Hospital a safe and compassionate place for patients to receive excellent care. Discontinuing the Training Fund is disrespectful not only to us, but also our

patients. Let’s show management we are united and that we are prepared to fight for what we need.”

Kathy Heffernan, Chaplain

VERP Update

Even after many of us emailed Cindy Hecker to demand that they continue bargaining the “Voluntary Early Retirement Package,” management doubled down on their decision not to bargain in good faith. They must recognize all of the work we have done to make Northwest Hospital a great place to work and provide care.