

# WE ARE ST. ELIZABETH'S Management proposals are holding us back!



CHI's decisions at St. Elizabeth have put the corporate bottom line ahead of our patients' safety and caregivers' wellbeing. Our hard work in keeping up with industry standards is threatened due to CHI's priorities. Management has proposed to eliminate our low census protection fund, to reduce premiums for per diem and in lieu of benefits employees, our work-on-day-off premiums, notice or release of work guaranteed, among other proposals that would keep us back. This is unacceptable.

Our bargaining team is committed to continue fighting for proposals that will invest in patient care. We're standing together for:

- Safe staffing levels in every department of the hospital
- Wages and respect that retain our staff
- Protection of benefits — affordable healthcare and a secure retirement — that we and our families depend on
- Organizational equity and inclusion — where everyone is treated fairly and able to report discrimination without the fear of retaliation



"Management continues to want to take away the low census protection fund that helps offset lost hours. We need to show them that this fund is important to every single nurse at SEH. That's why we need to show our unity and stand up and protect it."

**Kelly Patton, ACU**

## Next Steps:

- Bargaining on July 12, 2019
- Talk to your bargaining team member on our next action plan

## Our bargaining team:

Bryce Markey, ER  
Sara Peterson, OR  
Tara Neklason, ER  
Anne Kent, HRN  
Sherry Tomt, HRN  
Kelly Patton, ACU  
Andrew Shoaf, ACU  
Mimi Otto, ACU  
Jeanne Oden, FBC  
Sara Oster, ER  
Marylou Gustafson, OR



# We Won for Our Patients, Families, and Community!

## CHI Settles Attorney General’s charity care lawsuit for up to \$25 million in refunds for healthcare costs, forgiven debt to patients.

When we unite and stay the course one day longer doing what is right, we win for our patients and our community. Since our 2013-14 bargaining at St. Joseph Medical Center, we have called out CHI-Franciscan on systematically not offering the legally required financial assistance “charity care” all the while generating some of the highest margins of any healthcare organization in the state.

We started standing up against CHI-Franciscan’s unlawful charity care practices by calling out St. Joe’s, the heart of CHI’s presence in our region. In a big win for patients, the Attorney General’s settlement applies to care received at **eight CHI-Franciscan hospitals** in Washington. The legally binding settlement requires CHI-Franciscan to:

- Pay refunds of over \$2 million to all patients who already paid and should have received financial assistance for care received at all eight hospitals during this same time period (1/12-12/17).
- Cancel the still-outstanding debt of other patients who should have received financial assistance but didn’t for care received at all eight hospitals between January 2012 and December 2017. This will likely total over \$20 million.
- And make people whole in many other ways — come to the membership celebration to learn more!

**This settlement applies to us and our families and neighbors.** By uniting as a union, we lift up not just ourselves but our whole community. **Anyone who received care** at any CHI-Franciscan hospital from January 2012 to December 2017 — **whether insured or not**, whether employed at the hospital or not, whether the bill has already been paid or not — can benefit from this settlement if your household income qualified at that time.

Patients who were uninsured will receive a form in the mail in order to obtain debt relief/repayment. Patients who were insured at the time will need to fill out a **simple financial assistance application and income attestation**. All forms will be available at the membership celebration on June 18!



“We brought charity care to the bargaining table a long time ago, and we won! They have to pay back up to 25 million dollars and I think that is beautiful. It just goes to show that they can’t keep getting away with these things. Don’t ever give up the fight- things will work out!”  
**Willie Willis, EVS Tech II, EVS**



Representatives from SEIU Healthcare 1199NW join Attorney General Ferguson, State Rep. Laurie Jinkins, and other community advocates at the press conference.



“The Tacoma Ministerial Alliance felt obligated to get involved because the holy Bible commands that we care for the sick, the homeless and the destitute to pursue social justice. When we heard the stories of healthcare workers whose lives were destroyed and shattered by medical debt and corporate greed, we were blown away. This victory means the world to workers, patients and communities, because now CHI-Franciscan will have to relieve medical debt, pay restitution and repair the credit of those who were wronged. They’re also required to let folks know that charity care is available. We are very proud to have partnered with the members of SEIU Healthcare 1199NW on this major accomplishment, and we look forward to working together in the future for quality care, good jobs and justice.”

**Pastor Gregory Christopher of the Shiloh Baptist Church**

## We are Winning Charity Care Protection in Our Contract too!

In our last union bargaining at St. Joe’s and St. Clare, we won the right in our contract that the hospitals will work with us to provide financial assistance prior to sending us to collections.

We are uniting to win this contract protection in our bargaining at Highline, Regional, and St. Elizabeth this year.