

When We Unite to Make Our Voices Heard, We Win



We know that when we stand up and take action as one, we see results. We activated the power of our unity and turned it into action this week after management decided to cancel elective services at Good Samaritan for the entire week due to sterile contamination, creating hardships for all of us at surgical tech, perioperative, anesthesia and sterile processing.

The decision was made without consulting the frontline staff, resulting in mandatory low census, cancellation of training for new employees and uncertainty for us — management did not say how long the cancellations would last.

Because of our unity, we organized, came together and wrote emails to the CNO of our hospital, and spoke up at the employee forum — hosted by our new acting President Tim Briker — and told management:

- Getting paid for low census is a must for us, without having to use our own PTO
- Training employees must continue their preceptorship with no delays
- We need opportunities to do special projects

Because of our unity, our voices were heard, and we won:

- ✓ Special projects will be implemented in lieu of low census
- ✓ New employees will be placed back on schedule and continue with their preceptorship
- ✓ If low census does occur, we will be paid as administrative leave without having to use our PTO through November 30. An additional evaluation will be made in the future, if necessary
- ✓ Management ordered 600 new trays to fix sterile issues



“It was such a great feeling to see my team come together with the support of our union, and ask to be heard by our management group. This week represented a huge win for us. This proved there is so much power in numbers when standing up for ourselves.”

Nicole Henderson, Surgical Technologist, Main OR