

Working in Unity to Bring Certainty in Uncertain Times

As caregivers, we are stepping up to provide quality care to our community in a time of crisis and uncertainty. It's important we have access to every possible program in the social safety net to make sure our income is protected if we or a family member gets sick, or if we need to self-isolate because we are immunocompromised.

Last year, our state Legislature passed a first-in-the-nation bill granting Washingtonians access to twelve weeks of Paid Family Medical Leave. This historic win for working people was the result of a year's long campaign by members SEIU Healthcare 1199NW and other unions.

While we were temporarily left out of this important program, as part of our negotiations over the response to COVID-19 we called on hospital administration to participate in this important safety net program. Administration heard us and caregivers will now have access to the Paid Family Medical Leave program!

Find our agreements regarding the COVID-19 response at PeaceHealth at 1199nwcovidresponse.org/unions-enter-into-memorandum-of-agreement-with-peacehealth-st-joes/



“Having access to paid medical leave through the state is going to be such a support and relief to so many caregivers and their families who are in need right now. I’m so glad the hospital did the right thing and agreed to participate in the program.”

Amy Denniston, Respiratory Therapy



“This is a huge relief to my family and me. I am immunocompromised and knowing that I will have access to this crucial support adds some certainty in these very uncertain times. I appreciate the hospital listening to our stories and making the decision to extend this important state benefit to caregivers.”


Felicia Silva, Float Pool Telesitter

Understanding the safety net for ourselves and our families

Some of us need to access support for health issues or because of low census or unemployment, either for ourselves or a family member. Washington has improved the safety nets and resources for us all during the COVID-19 pandemic. More information is available at 1199nwcovidresponse.org/faq-benefits

1199NW Member Scenario	PFMLA	L&I	UI	Federal Paid Sick Leave and FMLA	CARES
Low Census			✓		✓
Department Closed No other work available			✓		✓
Department Closed Rejected offered work			Depends why re-jected		Depends why re-jected
Per Diem Not receiving typical hours			✓		Probably
Immunocompromised	Possibly. If you're able to work use UI		✓		✓
Dependent is immunocompromised	Possibly				✓
Quarantined		✓	✓	✓	✓
Sick with COVID-19	✓	✓		✓	✓
Child Care absences			Depends on if you can work e.g. remotely	✓	If Primary Care-giver and cannot work remotely

Join our union's all-member tele town hall



COVID-19 Union Response

All-Member Tele Town Hall

With special guest

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee

Thursday, April 16

10:30am – 12 Noon

