

United for the Future of Lifelong

Winning Safety for Tiny House Village Staff

The working conditions for staff in the Tiny House Villages were unsafe and unacceptable. Staff were regularly exposed to used syringes without proper sharps gloves or locking sharps boxes. No safety protocols existed for staff who found themselves pricked by needles. As union members at Tiny House Villages, we decided to act! We gathered signatures for our unity petition and presented these urgently needed changes in our work conditions to the Labor Management Committee. Our action worked! Now staff have access to the proper protective gear and information on what to do in case of workplace injuries.

“ We work hard every day to practice the principles of harm reduction in the Tiny House Villages. Unfortunately the conditions that we worked in were dangerous for us. We did not have the protective supplies we needed and had no training on what to do if we were stuck by needles. But through our solidarity we stood together to take action. It didn’t happen all at once, and there is still a lot of work to be done, but we were able make our voice heard! We won the tools we need to keep ourselves safe as we care for our clients! ”

Erica Capra, Housing Case Manager, LNW



BARGAINING UPDATE:

Fighting for a Contract That Respects Our Hard Work

We are working hard through this pandemic to provide our clients the best care possible, and now more than ever it’s important that Lifelong provide us with a livable wage, quality healthcare and a safe work environment. Our bargaining team continues to fight for a contract that respects the hard work we do so that we can continue to recruit and retain great staff and care for ourselves as well as our clients.



“ For my coworkers, healthcare and wages are important. Not being able to add family members is a huge expense and a lot of our coworkers are already struggling to get by. We understand that Lifelong is a non-profit, but our wages don’t keep up. We have open positions in our department that we can’t fill. We need to do better. ”

Jimmy Minahan, Medical Case Manager, Bellingham

“ We need to have safety language in our contract! Safety can be a major issue for us as well as for our clients. Contract language provides a way to hold management accountable for enforcing our safety policies. When things go sideways, as they sometimes do, I want the contract to have sturdy and actionable procedures in place. I’m on the bargaining team because we need a contract with strong safety language. ”

Laura Vega, Medical Case Manager, Pike St.



Our Bargaining Team

Zac Lawrence, EHIP, Lucile
Alyxx Berg, ADS, Bellevue
Adam Rocca, Housing CM, Pike
Laura Vega, MCM, Pike
Jimmy Minahan, MCM, Bellingham

