



Strength Through Unity: Our Union Difference

At EvergreenHealth Kirkland, we understand that we have power when we stick together. Through having a powerful, collective voice in our union, we were able to protect our contract from takeaways and cuts during COVID, win 5% in across-the-board pay increases for the next year and win quarantine pay for those of us who test positive for COVID-19. Without a strong union, we would have not been able to secure these victories. **Our ability to protect our wages and safety have shown us exactly why it is crucial for each of us at Kirkland to join together as a member of our union!**

The Freedom Foundation: The Anti-Worker Extremists Attacking Our Union

In recent weeks, an information request was submitted to EvergreenHealth Kirkland for all employee contact information, including email addresses, phone numbers and home addresses. This request was made by an organization called The Freedom Foundation, an extremist, anti-worker organization whose sole purpose is to limit the power of working people.

To achieve this, the Freedom Foundation uses donations from corporations and the ultra-wealthy to oppose pro-worker laws and sabotage workers unions by calling, mailing, emailing and visiting workers at their homes to persuade them to drop their union membership. Freedom Foundation representatives will talk to us about dropping dues to save money. What they won't mention is that by dropping our union membership, we'll be weakening the power of our union to bargain for higher pay, better benefits and improved working conditions. But we know better. By weakening our union, we would be giving up our voices and experience as equals with management and risk losing the power to defend our current contract and weakening the standards that allow us to give the best care possible to our patients.

It is likely that we and our coworkers will be contacted by phone, mail and email or visited at home by representatives of the Freedom Foundation who will try to convince us why we should leave our union.

What should we do if we are contacted by the Freedom Foundation?

1. Tell the Freedom Foundation you know we are stronger when we stand together as healthcare workers. Tell them all of us are sticking together in our union.
2. If you are contacted by email at work, request that IT block the email address.
3. Tell your delegate or organizer as soon as possible.
4. Talk to your coworkers about sticking together – our strength lies in our unity for better staffing, wages, and patient care.



“Through our union, we’ve made a huge difference during the COVID-19 pandemic. Including gaining paid quarantine leave, protecting our contract from cuts and getting 5% in across-the-board raises. The Freedom Foundation wants to trick you into thinking you don’t need a union so we won’t have the power to bargain strong contracts and so management can do whatever they want to you. They’re funded by billionaires and staffed by their political henchmen. But their efforts will ultimately be wasted because we all know that through the union we’re stronger together.”
Noah Negron CNA, Union Member & Delegate Cardiovascular Neurosurgery

Who Is The Freedom Foundation? What Are Their Goals?

The Freedom Foundation is a corporate funded, extremist anti-worker organization. Although they publicly profess to have the best interests of workers at heart, the truth is that their organization is dedicated to fighting the needs of working people. Here are some examples of what The Freedom Foundations believes:

- * Opposes paid sick leave laws.
- * Opposes paid family medical leave (Paid FMLA).
- * Opposes raising the minimum wage.
- * Has publicly stated that public sector workers do not deserve the pay and benefits they currently receive and accuse state employees of being a drain on taxpayers.

Our union is dedicated to fighting for better working conditions, pay and benefits for all workers. Which is exactly why the Freedom Foundation is targeting us. They know if they can beat back our union, it’ll be easier for them to fight back against the interests of working people.

This is why we need to continue to stand together as workers, stick with our union and remain members!



“With the Freedom Foundation attacking our union, it’s important for us to reflect on why our union is so important. During the pandemic, we won pay increases and access to better rights and protections. As the pandemic recedes and patient volumes increase, EvergreenHealth will once again thrive financially and our next contract will need to reflect that. Now more than ever it’s vital that we work together to build a strong union and achieve what would be impossible to accomplish alone: fair wages, benefits and working conditions for all of us. That’s why it’s crucial for us to remain active members of our union. Because it’s our participation and support for one another that will help us to achieve our goals.”

Brad Stout ED Social Worker, Union Member Care Management