



June 1, 2021

Logan Health

DAY 1

# Our Unity Cannot Be Broken. Our Voices Cannot Be Silenced.



In a remarkable display of our unity and strength, we packed the picket lines along with our coworkers, our families, our pets, and our Flathead Valley community on the first day of our three-day unfair labor practice strike for a fair contract at Logan Health. There is no question that management heard our voices — the voices of nurses who must be included in staffing decisions because we know what it takes to raise the standards of care, the voices of nurses who advocate for patients day after day and deserve wages that respect our experience, the voices that call on management to do the right thing and bargain in good faith.



“I’m so excited for all the nurses out here — we’re out here for our future and for the future of healthcare in Kalispell. We’re out here so we can stay here, afford to live here in the Flathead Valley, and take care of this community. All of this action only makes us stronger.” **Pam Rudolph, RN, Emergency Department**



“I joined the picket line for about three and a half hours this morning because I believe that patients will experience the best outcomes when the nurses that care for them have a meaningful voice in staffing ratios, compensation, and related issues. I loved marching with my fellow nurses who enthusiastically and respectfully champion this critical cause.” **Jeanette Houghtelling, RN, Pathways**



“I’m out here for my kids! Last year, my 2-year-old son was brought back from surgery still fully sedated and there were not enough nurses to take care of him! I am also out here for my patients with diabetes because all patients deserve safe quality care!” **Brittany Schultz, RN, Clinical Education**



“To be there Tuesday morning to support my fellow 3rd floor night shift coworkers and other RNs coming off shift was an amazing experience. To see and be a part of all the other support and unity from RNs all over the hospital was truly inspiring. I’m so grateful and thankful to be a part of something greater than myself, and I encourage each and every nurse throughout the organization to come down and show your support by standing with our peers working tirelessly for a fair contract. Let’s show administration our united front so they will be fair to those who care!” **Sammy Lindsay, RN, Med/Surg**





Getting Our Message Out to the Community



Rally for Patient Care at Logan Health

Our community stands with us and shared their support at our rally on Tuesday. Rally speakers:

- MC: Carol Mitch, RN - Bargaining team member
- Ryan Hunter - Kalispell City Council
- George Bland -Business Manager IBEW #768
- James Burrows - Montana AFL-CIO
- Danny Ramirez - SEIU Healthcare 1199NW member and nurse at Swedish
- Cindy Hinzman - Bargaining team member
- Jane Hopkins, RN - SEIU Healthcare 1199NW Executive Vice President



Our Union Family Stands with Us

Click on each letter to read, or scan these QR codes with your phone!

May 28, 2021

**nurse alliance**  
of SEIU Healthcare

To our Sisters and Brothers in Nursing in Kalispell:

The Nurse Alliance of SEIU is over 80,000 registered nurses across 21 states, a united voice for quality, affordable healthcare and good union jobs for all. We are proud to count you among our union siblings and as fellow front-line nurses.

We write today to extend our message of solidarity to the 650 nurses on strike at Logan Health for quality patient care and the right to organize without fear of retaliation or discrimination.

Taking the strongest possible public action is not easy, but it shows how committed you are to maintaining the highest possible standard of care for your patients. Surely, these patients understand that with this strike you are advocating for them, and they stand with you in your fight.

Know that you are part of a movement for quality patient care and good jobs for all that extends across our country and around the world. The members of the Nurse Alliance are proud to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with you in your fight for a fair union contract that values the hard and essential work you provide to the Flathead Valley community.

In solidarity,

*Martha Baker, RN*  
Martha Baker, RN  
Chair, SEIU Nurse Alliance

May 28, 2021

**SEIU**  
Stronger Together

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

On behalf of the 2 million members of SEIU, I applaud the action you are taking to fight for safer staffing, recruitment and retention, and a voice on the job at Logan Health.

Nurses like you have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis in the United States. The trauma of the last year has pushed you to the limit. You have long weathered the ongoing crisis of broken policies that are making it so difficult for you to both care for your patients and care for yourselves. But now, when your community needs you most, Logan Health management refuses to agree to do what is needed to value your essential work.

The refusal of hospital systems like Logan Health to put patients over profits has resulted in an untenable situation for healthcare workers and for patients. Hospitals must listen to the voices of their front-line nurses of SEIU Healthcare 1199NW and take seriously your demands for increased staffing, resisting the charge nurse on every unit or nurses are supported in taking care of patients, a nurse staffing committee to give nurses a voice in staffing decisions throughout Logan Health, and improvements to wages and benefits that will recruit and retain nurses to stay and work in the Flathead Valley.

Your work is essential, and your demands are righteous. We stand with you as you fight for your patients, your coworkers and your community.

In solidarity,

*Angela Long*  
Angela Long  
President, SEIU

SERVICE EMPLOYEES  
INTERNATIONAL UNION  
CTAC, CLC

1800 Massachusetts Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20036

202.739.7000

www.seiu.org



"I have been here for over 15 years and have been targeted and discriminated against for no other reason than standing up for my coworkers and working with our union. Management is actively seeking reasons to get rid of staff because they are supporting the union. It's gut wrenching to walk into a place I feel is my second home and a place I have dedicated so many years, only to be treated like I don't belong." **Susan Sweigart, Perianesthesia Health Center**



"I have been a hospice nurse for 25 years and worked at home options for 15. Never have I seen turnover like it's happening now. New graduates get hired and quickly realize they can make more at other hospitals. We are also losing people because we don't have enough staff to train them properly. I am an 8-hour nurse and often end up working 10 to 16 hours. I am sacrificing my family while management says, oh well!" **Aimee Abbott, Hospice RN, Home Options**



"This isn't what we imagined for the first year of our nursing careers. We were not a part of the vote to unionize, but we trust and respect the experiences of the nurses who were. That decision was not only made for themselves but also for the betterment of all nurses, for and against the union — for the community as a whole. Nurses will always get the job done regardless of the circumstances. We sacrificed years of our lives, as did our families, to earn our nursing license, and that should never be put in jeopardy because of unsafe practices. This is our community, our home and where we choose to raise our families. In this valley, Logan Health is really the only option to practice what we love, caring for our community. Being able to afford to live here making a fair competitive wage doesn't seem like too much to ask." **Jessi Zillner and Willie Mosley**

We will be back on the strike line starting at 7am on Wednesday and Thursday. Be sure to come to the rally on Thursday at Depot Park at 6pm to celebrate our powerful action for a first contract! Dinner will be provided.

