

The fight's not over: We're heading back to Olympia to address the staffing crisis

We haven't given up the fight for safer staffing. Last legislative session, we made momentous progress in elevating the staffing recruitment and retention crisis to lawmakers, media, and the public. Unfortunately, we weren't able to secure safe staffing standards in 2022. But we know the crisis hasn't gotten better – if anything, it's gotten worse.

We're gearing up now to take the fight back to Olympia and do what it takes to make sure healthcare workers have the staffing they need to provide excellent care. We look forward to sharing more policy specifics soon. But we need you to keep fighting too.

Last year's success was only because of activism from healthcare workers like you. Your voices are powerful. They move legislators to act. Help us make the most compelling case to legislators by sharing your personal staffing story.



bit.ly/StaffingStory

Read what our members have to say about why they're back in the fight to win safe staffing.

"Nurses and other healthcare workers continue to burn out under the stress of caring for more and more patients. Across the state, we're seeing long backups in emergency rooms and patients waiting in the ER until there's a bed and a nurse to take care of them. We're seeing nurses and other healthcare workers run ragged trying to keep up. That's why we can't let up on our fight for safe staffing. We need state-level solutions, which is why we're headed back to the legislature to win safe staffing in 2023." - **Jacob Garcia, Med-Surg Registered Nurse, Astria Sunnyside**



"We need to do something now to retain our experienced staff and attract new caregivers to the field. We have lost too many co-workers to burnout already. It's painful to see just how much short staffing is affecting patient care. I'm encouraging my co-workers and all fellow healthcare workers to speak up so state lawmakers can hear directly from those of us on the front lines. Solving this problem is going to require lawmakers to act in the interest of patients and ensure our communities have access to quality healthcare with safer staffing." - **Iliana Ramirez, Medical Assistant, Lourdes Medical Center**



"Safe staffing cannot wait. We are going back to the legislature more united than ever for safe staffing standards for all healthcare workers. We're asking everyone for their support, and to be ready to talk to their legislators, friends, and family. We are moving forward, now join us!" - **Ade Adeyemo, Certified Nursing Assistant, UW Medicine - Northwest Hospital**

