

Serving the Community Starts with Taking Care of Healthcare Workers

We're fighting for respect and livable wages for all of us!

At St. Joseph Medical Center, each one of us plays a vital role in providing top-quality care. Whether it's preventing and stopping the spread of infectious diseases, contributing to the healing process with nutritious meals, or providing direct patient care and emergency care services, we work tirelessly to ensure our patients receive the best possible care. Unfortunately, we have too many open positions that we can't fill, and we often see our co-workers leaving for better wages elsewhere.

We have proposed a livable wage increase of \$8 per hour which would help us to fill positions and retain employees. For many of us, such an increase would make a significant difference in our lives as we would no longer have to struggle between paying bills and rent and being able to afford groceries. CommonSpirit claims their mission is to improve the communities they serve, but they need to start by ensuring that we can provide the care our community needs.

EVS is Our Frontline

Environmental Services are key in ensuring hospitals maintain a clean and infection-free environment to provide safe, quality care for patients. Despite the importance of EVS work, management often fails to recognize the value of our work and treat us with the respect we deserve. The job of cleaning hospital rooms is incredibly detailed and requires a high level of expertise. However, management treats us, Environmental Services members, as if we are replaceable. Our EVS proposals aim to create assignments that would allow us to become experts in the specific areas of the hospital we are responsible for cleaning. This, in turn, is expected to increase the quality of care our patients receive. Additionally, our proposed certification program would help improve EVS skills, increase respect for the important work we do, and provide us with a path to higher wages. All of us need to stand with our EVS coworkers and ensure that everyone is seen and respected for the vital role we play in our work.

Our Proposals to Make EVS Better

A New Certification Program - ACET training through the SEIU Multi-Employer Training Fund for EVS workers to enhance their skills. After completing the training, workers would receive a premium of \$1 per hour

Break Room Access - Ensuring we can take a break where we are working, or in our EVS break room, whichever makes the most sense for us

Home Area Assignments - Respecting the detailed work it takes to clean an area of the hospital, letting us develop expertise in what we do

A New Process for Assignment and Staffing Concerns - A process to address short staffing and workloads that are too large to be completed. A committee to review operations related to census, admissions, discharges, transfers, and wait times

Improvements to Safety - A new committee to evaluate patterns of injury and review cleaning products utilized for safety

Better Care Maintenance - Preventing injuries and increasing efficiency by ensuring our carts are properly maintained



"Let us be confident in what we want for our families and community while raising our voices for the future of our union."

Jason Blessing, 8th Floor PCU



"This program aims to improve the continuity of care, which means assigning the same person to the same job every day to ensure patient safety. Our hospital is not in good condition, and we need help! We need to hire more people to improve the cleanliness and overall functioning of the hospital."

Willie Willis, EVS



"I believe that we need to take every necessary step to hire more people, especially more EVS workers. I care deeply about our housekeepers, who are already working double shifts and feeling exhausted. I wish that our hospital administration could offer more support to them. After all, housekeepers play a vital role in keeping the hospital clean and safe for everyone. Therefore, we must hire more housekeepers to meet the demand."

Nilda Warren, Med/Surg Acute

