



STAT facts

HEALTH CARE WORKERS COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STEELWORKERS

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Local 10-01426 Ratifies Four-Year Deal

Some 100 nurses working for Roosevelt Health Centers last week ratified a new four-year contract that raises wages and maintains benefits.

The members of Local 10-01426 staff two nursing homes in Edison and Old Bridge, N.J. They began negotiating in November.

“Our main goal was not to change anything from the contract we have,” said Liz Rivera, Local 10-01426 president. “We have good benefits, like holidays and vacation, and in the end we didn’t have to give anything up.”

The local also managed to get a 3.5 percent wage increase, as well as a raise to the tuition reimbursement allotment for continuing education from \$18,000 to \$25,000. The new contract also strengthens language regarding union leave and PAC.

Though the talks went relatively smoothly, management did drag their feet, Rivera said, stretching negotiations over several months, perhaps in an attempt to test the members’ resolve. But the local stayed strong and ultimately ended up with a fair contract.

“We’re a pretty special group,” said Rivera, “and a lot of that’s because we’re in the health care profession.”

In the News:

Lawmakers Seek OSHA Standard on Workplace Violence Prevention in Health Care

A group of Democratic congressmen this month introduced legislation that, if enacted, would lead to safer workplaces in the health care sector, according to Safety + Health magazine.

The Health Care Workplace Violence Prevention Act would direct OSHA to create a standard that would require health care facilities to create facility- and unit-specific workplace safety plans.

Health care workers currently experience some of the highest rates of workplace violence.

The newly introduced bill calls for input from doctors, nurses and other support staff and focuses on prevention, training and worker participation.

It also defines workplace violence broadly to include not only physical acts of violence, but threats of violence, and emphasizes staffing as crucial to preventing violence and responding quickly when it does.

To read the full article, click [here](#).

Tell Us Your Stories!

Has your local done something outstanding? Have you had a great solidarity action? Done something huge to help your community? Made significant connections with other labor groups? Is your Women of Steel or Next Gen committee making waves?

Tell us about it!
Contact Jess Kamm Broomell at
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