

Meriter SS Bargaining Email Alert 3/31/16

Everyone deserves a fair, livable wage. Working families are working harder every day for less. And so it is at Unity Point Meriter. Our SEIU Healthcare Wisconsin Bargaining Team wants to make sure that we all get what we deserve. After all, Unity Point Meriter can afford it!!

On Tuesday, March 29, our SEIU HCWI Bargaining Team exchanged proposals for the Service and Support Across the Board Wage Adjustment as required by our current Union contract that expires on March 11, 2018.

We all just received a 34 cent an hour increase in December 2015, thanks to our Union contract, but we know that we deserve more. Unity Point Meriter will not continue to provide quality care and make profits without all of us working as a team.

As you are aware, our Union has been a catalyst across the U.S. for increasing the minimum wage to \$15. There is no better place to begin our Service and Support Fight For Fifteen (\$15) than to make our Union wage scale comply with a minimum of \$15. Currently, our lowest paid person makes \$12.55 per hour. This is not a wage (\$26,104 annually) that a family of four can live on. We have to start lifting up our lowest wage workers and in turn lift all of the rest of us up.

We are starting now in bargaining!! **Our Union is proposing a minimum wage on our Union wage scale from \$12.55 to \$15.00 and then raising the rest of the wage scale by that same percentage increase as the lowest paid worker.** It is only fair that we all benefit from a raise in the minimum wage on our scale.

**Unity Point Meriter is proposing a 15 Cent increase for everyone.** We know they can afford more. We have to work together to make sure we can support our families.

## **Join the Fight For \$15 – Get Involved with Our Union**

### **Attend the Next Bargaining Sessions: May 4 & 26 (Location to be Determined – Stay Posted)**

**Please show your support by attending bargaining.**

**In Solidarity,**

**SEIU Healthcare Wisconsin Service and Support Bargaining Team**

**Deloris Seawright, Environmental Services**

**Lisa Chamberlain, Operating Room**

**Brenda Frary, Food & Nutrition**

**Robert White, Environmental Services**

**Gary Klemp, Engineering**

**Cal Fleming, Labor & Delivery**

**Todd Huebler, Engineering (alternate)**