

# The Nurse Informer

March 2025 Edition

# Seeking Candidates For Bargaining Team and Officer Positions! Nominate Yourself or Fellow Members by March 31

The first step in our contract campaign this fall is to **elect a bargaining team** that can speak to the issues of nurses in <u>all</u> parts of the hospital. The local president plus six elected members make up the team. We are hopeful RNs from the procedural areas, ER, Med-Surg, Behavioral Health and other departments will run for positions.

Bargaining team members will attend a few summer preparatory sessions and full days of bargaining in the fall. They are released from work duties and paid for most bargaining sessions at their regular hourly rate.

We are also seeking candidates for **Vice President** and **Treasurer**, both two-year terms. Current Vice-President Nate Hoffman plans to run again but other candidates are encouraged to run. Treasurer Jamie Brown will not run again, so it is vital we get nominees for that position.

# **Ascension Errors Create Dues Snafu**

Ascension has made major errors in dues withholding for two months in a row, due to employee mistakes in their payroll department.

On the 1/10/25 paycheck, the company withheld dues from every member of the bargaining unit. MNA issued refund checks to those that had not authorized dues deduction. On the 2/7/25 paycheck, Ascension withheld dues from less than 50 people – some members, some not. MNA is again issuing checks for those whose dues were wrongfully withheld.

For those who had authorized paycheck withholding and whose dues were not withheld in February, we have requested Ascension issue an apology and withhold them from a future paycheck to get everyone up to date.

If you received an invoice from MNA, this is why. You do not need to respond the invoice, as we have grieved the issue and are working to resolve it with Ascension.

Local union officers meet monthly and spend time each week rounding the hospital, representing members in disciplinary investigations and grievance meetings, bringing issues to the VP of Nursing, working with stewards, and building MNA at the state level. The five officers share 32 hours of paid time each week for union business.

Finally, we will elect two Delegates to the MNA House of Delegates. This is MNA's highest decision-making body; delegates elect the statewide Board of Directors, which manages the organization. Delegates serve two-year terms and there are two open positions.

Please nominate yourself or other MNA members for these important positions using the QR code below. **Nominations are due March 31.** 

The election will be held in April.



Important Dates		
April	Bargaining Team & Officer Elections	
April 24	Spring Education Day	
May 15	Capitol Action Day	
Early Sep.	Start Bargaining New Contract	
Oct. 9-11	MNA House of Delegates	
Dec. 14	Contract Expires	

#### **Contact your Local Union Officers:**

President: Lori Batzloff, 269-599-5764

Vice-President: Nate Hoffman, 269-998-6770 Secretary: Dawn Langley, 269-760-0413

Treasurer: Jamie Brown, 269-823-3531

Chief Grievance Rep: Jenni Livingston, 269-929-1969

#### **Contact MNA Staff:**

Labor Representative: Andy Cornell, 517-282-6700 Organizer: Pablo Terraza, 517-331-5305

Website: www.minurses.org/borgess Facebook: Borgess Nurses Staff Council

# **Know Your Department Stewards!**

Union stewards are department level MNA leaders who serve as a connective link between members and the officers. They can help answer questions about the contract and serve as union reps in disciplinary investigations. Here is contact information for our current stewards. Contact an officer if you are willing to serve as a steward in your unit!

Department	Steward/Officer (O)
CSS	Fiona Crookston
Cardiology (3N)	Jaime Moxley
Critical Care (ICU)	Lori Batzloff (O)
	Jamie Brown (O)
	Roxanne Terry
CVL/EP	Donette Vandermeer
	Jaimie Devenport
ED Annex	Cindy Evans
IR/NIL	Michelle Burgdorf
L&D (6N)	Ashley Daniels
	Doris Goodrich
NRT	Carol D'Cruz
OSS	Dana Dekoekoek
PACU	Kristin McKinney
	Nate Hoffman (O)
Patient Placement	Lori Cain
PST	Jenni Livingston (O)
PCU	Steve Iveson
Rehab (3W)	Carrie Lyon
Surgery	Alaina Biddle
	Kim Rackley
	Kenny Sullivan
	Leah Miksicek
SWAT	Dawn Langley (O)

# **MNA Supports Residents & Fellows Union**



WMed Residents and Fellows who work at Borgess and Bronson voted to unionize with the American Federation of Teachers last spring. WMed is fighting them tooth and nail as they try to negotiate their first contract. MNA members recently joined them for an informational picket. Their issues are the same as ours: overwork, underpay, and the inability to provide the level of care patients deserve in our profit-driven healthcare system.

Sign petition supporting residents here



### **MNA Organizer Helping With Contract Fight**

Pablo Terraza, a Senior Organizer with MNA, has been assigned to help us with our contract campaign again this year. He is a great resource. Please take a minute to talk with him when he is rounding in the hospital and please answer calls from his phone number: 517-331-5305.



