

Speak Out Now in Healthcare

A workplace newsletter for Highland and Kaiser workers

April 9th, 2025

Missing Pay for Certified Nurses

At Highland Hospital, nurses voted last July to approve a new contract that includes an additional 3% compensation for having a specialty certification. Nurses spend months preparing for these certification exams, and then maintain their certifications through extensive continuing education. Nurses with certifications generally have higher levels of clinical knowledge, skill, and experience and were looking forward to finally being recognized as leaders in their specialties.

The additional 3% compensation was supposed to go into effect in January, over 3 months ago, and yet nurses still have yet to receive any of their extra pay! With no explanation from management, this pay has been withheld, violating the terms of their agreed-upon contract.

It's time that management showed some respect to these nurses who go above and beyond to prove their dedication to their specialties, and pay them what they are rightfully owed.

Kaiser: Parking Lot Craziess

Two weekends ago, there were crazy scenes in the employee parking lot at Kaiser Oakland. The police chased several people into the employee lot after they had stolen cars outside the facility and entered the lot to evade police.

This was obviously a terrible situation that put Kaiser parking attendants in potential danger, and also put the cars of other Kaiser workers at risk of damage or being stolen.

Kaiser workers deserve a safe environment to work and park their cars!

Speak Out Socialists Public Meeting

Trump's Assault on the Planet is an Assault on Us!

Sunday, April 13



Join us at our next public meeting!
Sun. April 13, 4pm
2727 California Street, Berkeley

Mental Health Workers Challenge Kaiser

As of April 7th, mental health workers in Southern California have been on strike for 26 weeks. They are protesting the Kaiser administration's failure to meet their demands or address critical issues in the for-profit healthcare system. The strike is not just about pay and working conditions, but also about the quality of care being provided to patients. This recently became clear when the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) released an 88-page report that sheds light on some of the systemic issues within Kaiser's mental health services.

In 2023, Kaiser was fined a \$200 million penalty for failing to meet mental health care standards involving patients getting appointments in a timely manner. As of today, the company has corrected only 1 out of 20 violations outlined in the report, which means that for years patients have been having to wait anywhere from a few weeks to months to get even a simple appointment for their mental health needs.

Under capitalism, healthcare is nothing more than a big business, and this is no different for Kaiser. As the strike continues, it's becoming increasingly clear that Kaiser is more willing to pay penalties for violations than improve working conditions and patients' health. Not a surprise that the company's decision to continue operating understaffed and with poor working conditions has sparked outrage among its mental health workers, who are demanding better conditions and a more patient-centered approach to care.

Kaiser patients and workers trying to protect their mental health



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