



Montebello Firefighters

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Local 3821

Gary Kiff
Chief Executive Officer
Beverly Hospital

February 3, 2012

As the CEO of a community hospital serving the working class communities of Montebello, Pico Rivera, Monterey Park, El Monte, Whittier, and East Los Angeles, you have an obligation to provide a high quality of care that residents deserve. Unfortunately, the quality of care has been consistently slipping. There are structural and equipment failures such as: The hospital's roof is leaking, there isn't enough equipment for the level of care that people deserve, and existing equipment is broken. Wages are so low that the hospital can't keep enough experienced nurses to maintain safe staffing levels – levels required by state law. In the past 4 years there has been 20 +year nurses that have left due to working conditions. Beverly Hospital is an important part of the EMS system for the community and the people. As an EMS provider to the community of Montebello, Beverly is our Most Accessible Receiving hospital as well as a STEMI Center. With equipment and structural failure as well as poor working conditions, this is a problem for the hospital its staff and community.

Your Registered Nurses have spent years trying to get you and hospital management to invest in quality care, but their professional pleas have been ignored. Now they have a union – the United Nurses Associations of California/Union of Health Care Professionals (UNAC/UHCP) – on their side as well as the community on their side.

The Montebello Firefighters Association values the Hospital and its importance to our mission of Public Safety and we must work together to further that mission. The importance of nurses in this very competitive Hospital environment either completes the overall patient experience or destroys it. With the competition that is in the area, they can't afford poor patient care.

We are standing with the Nurses in their quest for quality patient care. Their fight is our fight.

You are running a profitable hospital. Please join us in our fight for quality patient care by investing in Beverly Hospital today:

- Settle a fair contract now without any further delays
- Purchase new equipment and repair current equipment and facilities.
- Lift Registered Nurse wage and compensation rates to industry standards so that Beverly can retain experienced nurses.

Please let us know any concerns that you may have.

Thank you,

Craig Barker
Union President Local 3821
Montebello Firefighters Association