Support top-notch health care for UC patients

Quality staff deserve fair wages

UC HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS provide a range of essential medical services for patients at the nation’s most advanced medical centers across the state.

UC’S MEDICAL CENTERS MADE PROFITS of more than $430 million on these services, and medical center executives got bonuses averaging more than $80,000 each, but UC offered those of us who actually deliver services a minimal wage increase for some and a net loss in pay for others. UC jeopardizes patient care by insisting on paying below-market wages.

IS IT ANY SURPRISE that health care professionals have voted to strike, if necessary? UPTE-CWA, the union that represents us, is now in a new stage of bargaining called “impasse,” overseen by the state’s Public Employment Relations Board.

The bargaining team will be at a mediation hearing in Oakland in mid-July, trying again to get UC to make a reasonable wage offer – one that doesn’t include less in your pocket at the end of the month. If this hearing fails (which we hope it doesn’t), we have a few more steps before we will need to strike. A strong showing by HX health care professionals that we are willing to strike if needed should help convince UC to negotiate in a serious manner.

UPTE-CWA representatives are available to answer any questions you may have about the bargaining process, strike plans and legalities. Please contact HX bargainer Wendi Felson at <wfelson@gmail.com>. We want to keep our members fully informed, and also let UC know that we are totally committed to a strike if it becomes necessary.