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Association



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For immediate release

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Contact: Local contacts below or press@nationalnursesunited.org

Los Angeles and Orange County RNs Take Part in National Day of Action July 21 to Demand Patient, Nurse Protections

The pandemic is not over, employers must address serious safety issues, say nurses

Registered nurses in Los Angeles County and Orange County will hold actions Wednesday, July 21—as part of a national day of action by RN members of National Nurses United (NNU)—to demand employers address problems highlighted by the Covid-19 pandemic and prioritize patient safety and workplace protections. The L.A. and Orange County nurses are members of the California Nurses Association (CNA), an affiliate of NNU.

Tens of thousands of NNU registered nurses are in the process of bargaining contracts that govern safe patient care conditions and their own workplace safety. RNs say it is crucial to win these protections in writing because employers have proven during the pandemic that they will continue to prioritize the bottom line over occupational and public health and safety. To date, more than 400 RNs have died of Covid.

“The Covid-19 pandemic underscored the failures of our so-called health care system and revealed more clearly than ever before that our employers put profits above patients’ and nurses’ health and safety,” said NNU President Deborah Burger, RN. “Nurses across the country are standing up and demanding critical change. Let’s be clear that with the number of Covid cases going back up in some areas of the country, and more contagious and deadly variants spreading, the pandemic is not over. Our employers must act today to address serious issues in our facilities.”

What: Los Angeles County, Orange County RNs hold action for safe patient care

Part of National Nurses United national day of action

When: Wednesday, July 21, see below for times

Actions will take place at the following locations:

Where: California Hospital Medical Center
1401 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles, 90015

Time: 6:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Contact: Ariana Gomez, 747-215-7138

Where: Glendale Memorial Hospital & Health Center
1420 S. Central Ave., Glendale 91204

Time: 6:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Contact: Ariana Gomez, 747-215-7138

Where: Saint Mary’s Medical Center
1050 Linden Ave., Long Beach 90813

Time: 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Contact: Christa Indriolo, 818-640-2567

Where: **Southern California Hospital- Culver City**
3828 Mas Terrace, Culver City 90232 (facing hospital main steps)
Time: 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
Contact: Yvonne Bonilla, 747-228-8615

Where: **Los Alamitos Medical Center**
[3751 Katella Ave., Los Alamitos 90720](#)
Time: 6:30 a.m – 8:30 a.m.
Contact: Yvonne Bonilla 747-228-8615

Protections nurses across the country are demanding include optimal personal protective equipment (PPE), as many nurses still report being told to use the same N95 respirator for an entire shift or for multiple shifts, or not being given an N95 respirator at all. Nurses are also demanding safe staffing levels, and other measures to ensure patient safety during Covid-19.

Nurses are also demanding their employers help protect their patients against racial health disparities that most harm their Black, Indigenous, and patients of color by expanding and preserving health care services, not shrinking, eliminating, and consolidating them to maximize profit.

“From the start of the pandemic, nurses have called on the hospitals to make appropriate plans, to increase staffing and increase training, to put in place clear infection control protocols, and to observe the precautionary principle by using the highest level of protections when dealing with a novel virus,” said Burger. “The hospitals did not comply, and the consequences have been deadly. Nurses are standing up on July 21 and using our collective voices to demand that our employers put patients first.”

The California Nurses Association has 100,000 members statewide and is affiliated with National Nurses United, the largest and fastest growing union of RNs in the nation.

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