



**Engineers & Scientists
of California**
Local 20 IFPTE



Home Health Occupational, Physical, and Speech Therapists Negotiations
Union Update
May 3, 2019

Home Health Therapists Take to the Streets to Call for Professional Working Conditions and a Contract that Supports Quality Patient Care

Home Health Therapists from Santa Rosa and other offices joined together this Tuesday before going to work in their first ever picket! We were supported by ESC Local 20 lab stewards, nurses, Teamsters, ILWU, and SEIU who helped us convey our demands for respect, parity, and quality patient care loud and clear.

The same day, Sonoma County Supervisor Shirlee Zane sent a letter to decision-maker Janet Liang as well as showed her public support of the work we do and our fight for a fair contract in an interview in the [Press-Democrat](#):

"These are super valuable people that need to be taken care of when contracts are negotiated," she said. "People at the county level who need surgery go through Kaiser and I want to make sure they have that same type of excellent care."

Keeping the Pickets Rolling and Growing Support for Our Fight

Rolling Pickets to Continue: While this was a great first step to get our message across, we know we will have to do more. We are working on scheduling more Informational pickets soon! Be ready!

ESC Local 20 Members Support Petition: Additionally, your comrades in ESC Local 20's Optometry, Genetics, and Laboratory units at Kaiser will be petitioning Kaiser leaders on your behalf demanding they stop messing around and trying to water down our hard-won union standards for Home Health Therapists.

Bargaining Progresses, Slowly

A couple new Tentative Agreements were reached May 1 (e.g. Stewards, Education Leave, and Professional Practice Committees) when we returned to the table for the day after the picket. As we settle more and more issues, this will help us push Kaiser to finally tackle lost benefits and a comprehensive wage structure when we meet again.

National Bargaining

The Coalition and Kaiser's next National Negotiations begin May 14 and the all Unions will continue taking action until we settle a new National Agreement, and any unresolved local negotiations will impact a National Agreement settlement. Local 20 Genetics and Laboratory will also be reopening their contracts at this same time. The goal is to have all contracts settled by July 9, including Home Health, if not settled before.

Next Bargaining Dates: May 14 and June 5, 13

Michael Aidan, ESC Local 20 Chief Negotiator

Bargaining Committee: Erelah Gafni, Oakland; Ken Rosenfeld, Santa Clara; Marianne Nicholson, Martinez; John Wickenburg, Santa Rosa; and Kathleen Doerr, Sacramento