CASTRO VALLEY - While Sutter Health executives and their corporate sponsors wined and dined inside white tents, Sutter nurses marched and chanted outside to expose the harmful contract takeaways we’ve been fighting, and to condemn Sutter’s closure and threatened closure of units and hospitals throughout our communities.

Gala attendees were greeted out front by two tuxedo-clad “maitre d’s” with a special menu that detailed the cuts Sutter has served up to the nurses and the community (see menu on back). Nurses emphasized the misplaced priorities of Sutter: cutting overall number of beds, and the psychiatric and rehab units while celebrating its shiny new hospital.

Sutter has also proposed at the bargaining table many proposals that erode nursing standards, cuts that include bypassing seniority in job bidding rights for Eden nurses, cuts to PTO/ESL, numerous pay cuts, cutting benefits to part-time nurses, restrictions on use of education leave, and dozens more takeaway proposals.

Sutter’s “Once In A Blue Moon Gala” at Eden Medical Center was planned on the one-year anniversary of our first strike. As a further insult to the nurses, Sutter prominently displayed the company On Assignment/Nurse Bridge as one of the main gala sponsors, a traveler agency that supplies replacement nurses when we strike.

The glamour and glitz on display by Sutter stood in deep contrast to the austerity they claim at the bargaining tables. Nurses parodied the expensive gala by Sutter with their own version of food, fun and even formal wear. We sent a strong message to Sutter management that priority needs to be placed on nurses and all other workers delivering care to the community, not to a brand new structure.
TONIGHT’S FARE

is unfair

APPETIZERS

Varied Sutter Hospitals
Acute Rehabilitation, not available
Breast Pumps, limited availability
Electrophysiology, no longer available, Alta Bates
Outpatient Infusion, no longer available, Herrick campus

PRICE
(To the Community)*
$$$$$$
$$$$$
$$$$$
$$$$$

MAIN COURSES

Varied Sutter Hospitals
Inpatient/Outpatient Psychiatry, Eden, not available
Pulmonary Subacute, Alta Bates, not available
Cardiac Cath Lab, Ashby Campus, not available
Cancer Screenings for Disabled Women, not available
Skilled Nursing Facility, San Leandro Hospital, not available
Critical Care Nursery, soon to be off the menu at Eden
Bone Marrow Transplants, Alta Bates, not available
Closure of San Leandro Hospital, potentially unavailable
Closure of St. Luke’s Hospital, potentially unavailable

PRICE
(To the Community)*
$$$$$$
$$$$$$
$$$$$
$$$$$
$$$$$
$$$$$
Exorbitant*
Exorbitant

SIDE DISHES

Varied Sutter Hospitals
Birthing Center, Auburn, no longer available
Adolescent Psychiatry, availability restricted

PRICE
(To the Community)*
$$$$$$
$$$$$

DESSERTS

Varied Sutter Cutbacks
Pediatrics, Cuts
Psychiatric, Cuts
Lactation Services, Cuts
Transitional Care Services, Cuts
Home Health Services, Cuts
Wound Care, Cuts

PRICE
(To the Community)*
$$$$$$
$$$$$
$$$$$
$$$$$
$$$$$

Chef Fry Prix Fixe Option

Over 100 Takeaway Items to the Nurses

$6,000 to $39,000 annual cost to RNs only

*Could be hazardous to your health.