

## IMPORTANT TRAINING NOVEMBER 6 in AUSTIN GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS - LEARN THE 7 TESTS OF JUST CAUSE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRS - RECRUITMENT & ORIENTATIONS

Just Cause protection is the keystone of our collective bargaining agreements, and NNOC contracts at both Tenet and HCA-affiliated hospitals provide nurses with this protection. Many of our written grievances involve violations of nurses' Just Cause rights. This advanced training is for Grievance Committee members who handle written grievances. Also invited are Membership Committee members who handle orientation of newly hired nurses.

# Special 2-hour CEs on Obamacare (the ACA) and Changes Coming to Healthcare

Free to NNOC members — Limited class size. Please check with your local union office for times and locations

- Wednesday, Oct. 16, 8:30 am & 3:00 pm, in El Paso
- Thursday, Oct. 17, 6:00 pm, in San Antonio
- Friday, Oct. 18, in Corpus Christi
- Saturday, Oct. 19, in Houston

#### Community Meetings Sponsored by Organized Nurses

Please check the Union Bulletin Boards for details

- Wednesday, October 9, Brownsville a discussion on healthcare and a screening of the film 'Diabetesville, USA'
- Saturday, October 12, Corpus Christi a discussion on healthcare and a screening of the film 'Diabetesville, USA'

#### SAN ANTONIO AFL-CIO HONORS NNOC-TEXAS AT THEIR LABOR DAY CELEBRATION

The award identified our NNOC Metro Committee as 'the driving force behind collective patient advocacy,' and cited particularly the original San Antonio Metro members as the 'pioneers' of the movement.



NNOC RN leaders with Congressman Beto O'Rourke at the Labor Day breakfast in El Paso. (left to right: Audrina Bovan, Sylvia Searfoss, Beto O'Rourke, Maria Navarro). RNs set up a Robin Hood table at the event and gathered over 50 postcards in support of HR 1579 to TAX WALL STREET-HEAL MAIN STREET.



More on the back »»

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# NURSES, PATIENTS & OUR COUNTRY NEEDS MORE UNIONS and STRONGER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The economic standard of the vast majority of Americans is sinking like a rock, with no relief in sight. Every statistic and study no matter what the source confirms this fact. While better legislation – stronger Social Security, a higher minimum wage, paid family and medical leave - would help, it cannot solve the problem.

The only solution available to us is massive union organizing drives and much more aggressive collective bargaining programs. That's how working people established the modern U.S. standard of living, and that's how it will have to be re-established.

# Here is some of what happens when collective bargaining is too weak: WAGES STAGNATE



### PENSIONS DISAPPEAR

A generation ago many working Americans did not have to obsess about retirement saving accounts; they had pensions. In traditional union-negotiated pensions, the risk rested with employers who had the responsibility to fund the pension's 'defined benefits'. Now only 22% of America's private sector employees have a real pension plan. Phony 401(k)s produce very little retirement funds for most of us.



Source: Monique Morrissey and Natalie Sabadish, Economic Policy Institute, How the 401(k) revolution created a few big winners and many losers, September 2013

## **BE PART OF THE SOLUTION -**JOIN THE UNION - SUPPORT COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

### HELLO 1913 - U.S. INCOME INEQUALITY **GREATEST IN 100 YEARS**



The wealthiest 1% of Americans took over 20% of all income generated by our country in 2012. The wealthiest 10% took over 50% of all income in 2012. We haven't seen this kind of money-grab in a 100 years, back when conditions for most people in the U.S. were at Third World levels.

### ECONOMIC INSECURITY-ON THE EDGE OF FINANCIAL RUIN

The Corporation for Enterprise Development reports that nearly half of U.S. households (132.1 million people) do not have the finances to last 3 months if faced with unemployment, medical emergency or natural disaster. More than 30% have no savings account at all, and another 8% don't even bank, period.

The 2 biggest southern states, Florida and Texas, are among the most insecure. Over 25% of Texans under age 65 (5.7 million folks) have no medical insurance, the highest uninsured rate in the country. Uninsured Floridians are a close second; just under 25% (3.8 million people) have no coverage. When it comes to low wage jobs, its also Texas and Florida first and second in the percentage of workers earning the minimum wage.

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