

Resolution in Support of Fairness, Justice, and Equity in Connecticut's Hospitals

Whereas, an increasing number of health management corporations and their executive leaders are engaged in a direct assault on the American middle-class in order to boost their profits at the expense of the communities they are supposed to serve; and

Whereas, Connecticut's labor movement has a long history of standing behind all workers when they are engaged in a fight for justice; and

Whereas, the Connecticut AFL-CIO and its member unions have long stood against corporate abuses such as sub-contracting and layoffs to maximize profits and force their workers into a race to the bottom; and

Whereas, the NAACP's Connecticut Chapter has released a comprehensive study of the inequitable representation of people of color, from service-related jobs to executive positions, and in procurement of private contracts in our state's hospitals; and

Whereas, Lawrence and Memorial Corporation (LMC) has pioneered new and shrewd tactics at its community hospital and subsidiaries in the New London region to avoid their contractual obligations by creating shell corporations, alter egos and subcontracting to themselves; and

Whereas, the Union members at Lawrence and Memorial (L&M) Hospital have brought management before the National Relations Labor Board to answer for their outrageous schemes to dismantle and deny workers the rights properly afforded to them; and

Whereas, the NAACP's study of Connecticut hospitals finds L&M Hospital comes up short in reflecting the diversity among its workforce, board members and top management, and service that exists in the community they serve; and

Whereas, the Union members at L&M Hospital have become the vanguard in this struggle for justice and equity by offering contract language that would begin to bring equity and diversity to their community hospital; and

Therefore, be it resolved that the Connecticut AFL-CIO will engage its member unions in any fight by healthcare workers in our state to achieve justice on the job and resist tactics by greedy, irresponsible health management corporations to put profits ahead of quality patient care; and

Therefore, be it also resolved that the Connecticut AFL-CIO will support efforts by healthcare workers to reverse inequities in their workplace that unfairly exclude people of color from advancement and procurement opportunities; and

Therefore, be it also resolved that the Connecticut AFL-CIO will stand behind our sisters and brothers employed by L&M Corporation as they work to extend the rights and benefits of union membership to the workers of LMC's shell corporation, the L&M Medical Group.

Submitted In Solidarity by: Melodie Peters, AFT Connecticut President

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