

November 9, 2011

## **UMDNJ Update**

### **Negotiations**

CWA Local 1031 met with UMDNJ on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. While UMDNJ made a counter to their 1% increase offer in July of 2012 and their 1% increase offer in July of 2013, we were unable to reach an agreement.

We are scheduled to meet again on Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. We have heard that the HPAE Nurses and Professionals have settled with UMDNJ, but we do not have any details at this time. We are hopeful that we will settle with UMDNJ. If we do, the contract must be ratified by the membership. We will keep you updated. We believe it is important to have a contract before any official merger announcements.

### **Future of UMDNJ**

Since the public meeting with the UMDNJ Advisory Committee in October, a lot has happened. There is speculation of the UMDNJ SOM and Rutgers Camden going to Rowan University in Glassboro. This is in addition to RWJMS, SPH and the Cancer Institute going to Rutgers New Brunswick.

The Unions from Rowan University, Rutgers University and UMDNJ arranged a meeting. We went over what we had heard and read, the politicians we had spoken with, and what we think can be done. Our primary goal is to protect our workers. None of the Unions want to see anyone laid off as a result of a merger. We have split into sub-committees to examine the job titles, public and political support, and to develop legislation to protect the members. We will be meeting again on Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.

After the three University Coalition Unions met, the UMDNJ Coalition of Unions met with Newark Mayor, Cory Booker. We discussed the possible break up of UMDNJ and impressed upon Mayor Booker the need for UH and UMDNJ in Newark to remain open. We explained the St. Barnabas rumors and expressed our concerns about UMDNJ's viability. The Unions have commitments from Mayor Booker and Senator Rice to protect UH and maintain UMDNJ. We have received information from both of them that they are following up on the future of UMDNJ by having meetings with community groups, other politicians, UMDNJ, and the State.

Today, the Coalition of Unions is meeting with UMDNJ Senior Management. We were scheduled to meet with them in late October but UMDNJ cancelled. We will impress upon UMDNJ our concerns once again. The meeting is only scheduled for a half hour.

We will keep you updated as information becomes available.