

SEIU HEALTHCARE MINNESOTA • HEALTHPARTNERS BARGAINING UPDATE

NOVEMBER 21, 2019 • UPDATE #1



On Tuesday and Wednesday our SEIU Healthcare Minnesota bargaining team met with HealthPartners management for the first two days of collective bargaining of our next Union contract. We know the important work we do every day, and we've seen how HealthPartners continues to push us to do more with less. Our co-workers representing us on our bargaining team shared stories of how our families are struggling to pay their bills and how much we value the great health benefits we have won in our Union contract. They put forward a host of proposals to improve our jobs and the quality of care we provide every day to our patients. Our proposals were in the spirit of making sure both us as workers and the patients we care for are able to live happy and healthy lives. Instead of joining us in a conversation about moving forward and making progress, here are just a few of the proposals for cuts and concessions that our employer has proposed:

Costs shifted to Classic-plan participants

- \$30-50 co-pays for Urgent Care visits
- \$100 co-pays for Emergency Room visits
- \$30-40 co-pays for hospital outpatient visits
- \$30 co-pays for brand Rx drugs
- \$20 co-pays for generic Rx drugs
- Premium increases: \$70 monthly premiums for dependents, \$170 for family (spouse and dependents)
- And there would only be FOUR clinics you could go to for a \$0-20 office visit; all other office visits would require a \$20-40 co-pay

Costs shifted to Choice-plan participants

- \$40-60 co-pays for office visits
- \$50-70 co-pays for Urgent Care visits
- \$150 co-pays for Emergency Room visits
- \$50-80 co-pays for hospital outpatient visits
- \$40 co-pays for brand Rx drugs
- \$20 co-pays for generic Rx drugs
- Premium increases: \$80 for single, \$175 for dependents, \$275 for family (spouse and dependents)

The short version: huge increases, sometimes of more than 100%, in the co-pays and premiums we and our family members pay!

We know that those of us on the front lines make HealthPartners the award-winning provider it is, all while the HealthPartners CEO makes over a million dollars per year. And now HealthPartners management told us they want to take from us to keep more for themselves: hundreds of thousands, maybe millions of dollars removed from the benefits we've fought for and won from this employer through collective bargaining, all to add to their bottom line.



health and well-being in partnership with our members, patients or community" operates? Or is it the behavior you'd expect from a for-profit corporation that cares about nothing but their bottom line?

We want a Minnesota where every family has the health insurance they need so when our families get sick we can get the care we need and not worry about going into debt. We are going to fight this attempted rollback because we know that to move forward together we can't allow for healthcare greed to move us even one step backwards.

And that's not all. HealthPartners management has also put forward many other cuts and concessions to other provisions of our contract. And of course we started these negotiations just a few days after receiving the devastating news of HealthPartners' plan to eliminate more than 90 Union jobs held by our hard-working, dedicated Pharmacist members.

Does this sound like the way a non-profit organization with a mission "to improve

Stay tuned for more updates, through videos and flyers, from your bargaining team, and for opportunities to take action to show that we will do whatever it takes to keep the high-quality, affordable healthcare benefits we have fought for and won through our Union!

To sign up for our Contract Action Team, contact SEIU organizer Elise Frieder at elise.frieder@seiuhcmn.org.