



**SEIU Healthcare**<sup>®</sup>  
United for Quality Care

March 15, 2020

Dear SEIU Healthcare Minnesota members,

For the past two weeks I have been honored to represent healthcare workers on Minnesota's COVID-19 advisory board and have been in constant communication with Commissioner Malcolm at the Minnesota Department of Health and with Governor Tim Walz on our state's preparation and response plan.

Jamie Gulley  
President

Jigme Ugen  
Executive Vice President

Lisa Weed  
Executive Vice President

Phillip Cryan  
Executive Vice President

On Sunday, Governor Walz announced a plan to close schools for 8 days starting March 18th and through Friday, March 27th, for educators and school districts to plan for distance learning. As part of the announcement, schools were also ordered to continue to provide care for the children and dependents of healthcare workers. This order is intended to ensure that healthcare workers like us are able to continue to report to work to care for those who are in need in our community and to prevent serious staffing shortages that would leave our co-workers overwhelmed.

If you are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 we ask you to please stay at home and do not risk your co-workers or patients with possible exposure. Please be sure to follow the appropriate guidelines for your workplace when doing so. We are working with all of our employers in the state to update our absentee policies, to adjust our health care plans and to provide streamlined processes for requesting leave through Occupational Health and/or pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act and we will continue to provide updates to members on our website at [seiuhealthcaremn.org](http://seiuhealthcaremn.org).

If you have any questions or concerns about the plan at your worksite to prepare for COVID-19, for protecting the health and safety of health care workers and our patients, or any concerns about your economic security in the weeks ahead, please reach out to us at our Member Action Center at (651) 294-8100 | (800) 828-0206 | [mac@seiuhealthcaremn.org](mailto:mac@seiuhealthcaremn.org).

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In Solidarity,

Jamie Gulley

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