Dear BSWs,

Via advisory vote that launched two weeks ago, members voted against calling for a rebid of all the shifts 3 to 1. Remember that UIC agreed to open the 10 first shift positions filled by agency staff for bidding for civil service BSWs. The bid will be based on volunteers and seniority. UIC confirmed that these open positions have not yet been posted. However, per the CBA we have requested that the union be notified as soon as those positions are posted so that all BSWs have the fair opportunity to bid for these vacancies.

Also, the union did file a grievance on August 11, 2022 addressing the fact that BSWs were not given the proper notice about their shift change and letters specifying the new schedule were not sent out to staff according to the past practice in the facilities department. We will keep you posted on the hearing date for that grievance, as well as information that we may need from members about their experience this week trying to navigate the change.

If you are struggling to adjust to the schedule this week, we strongly encourage you to be proactive about discussing your concerns with your supervisors or director. If you need assistance, please reach out to our Member Action Center at (312) 787-5868. You can also contact your union steward or rep, or myself, at mbunnage@seiu73.org.

Finally, we submitted a demand to bargain today over any and all buildings that UIC is considering outsourced to an outside agency. According to our union contract, UIC is required to notify us about any potential efforts to contract out buildings and discuss their reasons for the decision. We will notify members when a bargaining date has been set to discuss our response to this ongoing concern further.
In Solidarity,

Melinda Bunnage