



SEIU LOCAL 73

PURPLE WEDNESDAY NEWSLETTER

NEWS FROM YOUR UIC UNION



Fighting Back Against Discrimination

Angelina Ross enrolled in UIC's project management course and was eager to develop and grow her skills in a new title at UI Health. Three months into her new role, her manager began to behave unprofessionally and said disrespectful things toward her. Angie went above and beyond to ensure she was doing her job correctly. On the very last day of serving her one-year probation, her manager failed her. "I felt like she tried to run me away. I know I'm a very strong person, but the stuff that she did to me really affected me mentally," said Angie.

Angie is the most recent in a list of Black and Brown women who have either quit the department or failed their probation. Her coworkers have filed complaints against management for racism, yet they went unaddressed. "I believe in the trajectory that the University is going in. UIC is trying to be more inclusive and diverse. But in order to do this, they need to tackle issues like these head on and not just hope that it goes away. They have to let employees know that they want to make a change," said Angie.

Building Power at the Bargaining Table

Your bargaining team wants UIC to provide Illinois families the healthcare, education, and support they deserve. But how can UIC provide for the public when their own Black and Brown workers continue to be left behind? UIC must listen to the experiences of Black and Brown staff, improve the process for investigations reported to the Office of Access and Equity, value continuing education, and negotiate a fair contract with Local 73 employees.

Join your coworkers in building union power for the bargaining table to hold UIC accountable for creating a safe work environment, free of discrimination, for all employees. Fill out your bargaining survey today (if you have not already) and remind a coworker to fill it out. Volunteer to join the contract action team. Reach out to your steward or union rep to set up a department union meeting and make your voice heard.