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# **Bargaining Update and Next CAT Meeting**

Despite giving UIC most of our economic proposals three months ago, management has still not responded to any of our economic demands. While we appreciate that management continues to participate in discussions with us over workload and work-life balance, we were disappointed to make little actual progress toward settling these important non-economic issues still on the table. In the Pros session on January 25, UIC completely rejected our proposal to weight caseloads in DSCC. In the Technical session on January 30, we tried to discuss our proposal for float pay and procedure but were ultimately not able to get anywhere due to management's claim that they were not ready to discuss economics.

**<u>Register here</u>** to observe one of the upcoming sessions on Zoom or attend our negotiations in person on February 1 from 12- 4 PM in Student Center East (SCE), Room 605.

Pay increases and other improvements will be won by 4,000 members coming together to exercise power in numbers. Help build the power necessary to move management at the bargaining table by joining the Contract Action Team. CAT members make sure coworkers are up to date on bargaining and know how to take collective action to win a fair contract. **The next CAT meeting is February 8 at 6 PM on Zoom**. Click the button below to **RSVP**.



## Member Testimony: Melissa Croft, Division of Specialized Care for Children



Melissa Croft, Local 73 Chief Union Steward and Medical Social Consultant at the Division for Specialized Care for Children, shares her testimony about the impact of high turnover and low wages on DSCC workers. The lack of pay raises and respect drives talented social service workers out of UIC, interrupting participant care and creating larger workloads for existing DSCC workers. UIC can address this problem by negotiating a fair contract that awards DSCC workers with the pay progression they deserve.

#### Click here to watch the reel.

### **Legislative Update**

On January 25, Local 73 members and leaders met with members of the Illinois General Assembly to discuss the fight for a fair contract. Local 73 President Dian Palmer and members of the Bargaining Team and the Contract Action Team shared their stories and gave updates on UIC's reluctance to address their concerns at the bargaining table. State Senator Willie Preston (District 16), State Rep. Camille Y Lilly (District 78), State Rep. La Shawn Ford (District 8), State Rep. Omar Williams (District 10), State Rep. Cyril Nichols (District 32), State Rep. Curtis Tarver (District 25), and Rep. Debbie Meyer-Martin (District 38) expressed their support and agreed to write a letter in solidarity asking UIC to fill the existing UIC job vacancies, fully fund campus and hospital services, and settle a fair contract with Local 73 workers. Since then, more representatives have reached out requesting to know how they can support our efforts at the bargaining table. This productive meeting was just the first in many more; we plan on meeting again in the future to discuss further actions.

### **Next Steps**

• <u>Sign our letter demanding</u> that UI stop spending money on private companies, and start investing in students, patients, and workers!



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SEIU 300 S Ashland Chicago, IL 60607 United States

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