



## JULY 14 LEAGUE BARGAINING BULLETIN

*We have officially kicked off League bargaining and presented our proposals.* As you know, our proposals include annual wage increases, and maintenance of our benefits and retirement. We also heard from some of our 1199 heroes about their experiences during the pandemic. They talked about the fear they had every day of the last year and a half—fear of getting sick and fear of getting their loved ones sick, as well.

They talked about being thrown onto the front lines and not being able to stay “safe at home,” while the rest of the world was encouraged to socially distance. They also talked about how they were once regarded as heroes by their League employers, but now they aren’t feeling the love. Especially after the League started crying “broke” and mentioned the “grim” financial reality facing League institutions.

So, the League wants to talk about **GRIM** realities?! Where were the League institutional presidents and CEOs when we were being sent into COVID-positive patient rooms without adequate PPE? Members literally had to wear trash bags because they didn’t have enough gowns—that’s **GRIM**. Where was hospital management, when we had to hold COVID-positive patients’ hands, and phones, and iPads as they said their final goodbyes to their loved ones virtually? That’s **GRIM**.

We know all too well about **GRIM** realities because we’ve lived them each and every day of the last year and a half. We also know that priorities are important. As our President George Gresham always says—you don’t stop buying toilet paper and other necessities because the costs increase. Well, we aren’t going to let the League shortchange the heroes whose hard work and dedication kept facility doors open. We aren’t going to let them forget the heroes who put their own lives on the line to save others.

**WE ARE THE HEROES IN THIS FIGHT**—even the League admitted that. And now it’s time for the League to push past its **GRIM** reality—just like we have for a year and a half—and do what’s right.

Our next session is Wednesday, July 21st. If you aren’t on the negotiating committee and want to join, check your email and text messages for the virtual link. If you don’t receive it, please check with your organizer.

