

23 September 2009

COMMUNITY HEALTH MEMBERS REJECT OFFER OF 3% AND RESOLVE TO PROCEED TO INDUSTRIAL ACTION

ASU members in community health centres received a report back from union representatives who have been engaged in negotiations with VHIA since your current Multi Business Agreement's expiry in January 2009, at a series of meetings around the state which concluded today.

Unfortunately, but unsurprisingly, the union's wage claim for parity with our colleagues in the public sector has been rejected. Employers have advised they do not receive sufficient funding to grant our claim.

Instead, the union has been formerly offered 3% wage increases. This falls far below our claim.

Following this report back, CHC members present at each meeting rejected this offer, and moved to proceed to escalating pressure on the government in negotiations.

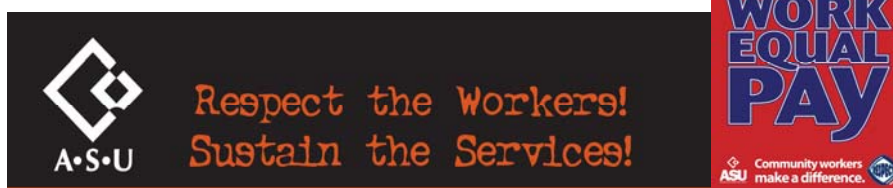
This will occur by proceeding to a ballot for protected industrial action at community health centres across the state. This action will be directly aimed at putting pressure on Minister for Health, and the Treasurer and Premier that more funding is needed for SACS CHC workers!

In the coming weeks, your ASU organiser will be in contact to make arrangements to discuss the ballot process at your workplace.

In the meantime, a phone hook-up of ASU representatives from each CHC will be arranged, to discuss options for what type of industrial action should be recommended to members to take. An invitation and dial-in details for this phone hook-up will be forwarded to all ASU delegates in community health separately. If your centre does not have an ASU delegate, make sure you elect one today!

For more information about any of the above, please contact your ASU organiser, or the ASU Member Contact Centre on 1300 85 55 70.

Together we are stronger!



Lisa Darmanin
Assistant Branch Secretary

Authorised by: Brian Parkinson, Secretary, Australian Services Union, Victorian Authorities & Services Branch, 116 Queensberry Street, Carlton South, Victoria 3053

Wil Stracke
Industrial Officer / Organiser