

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 8, 2024

Statement By Clara Maass Medical Center
Re: 1199SEIU Picketing

Cristina Allen, Clara Maass Medical Center spokesperson

Clara Maass Medical Center has attempted to negotiate with the SEIU in good faith for almost two years – but the SEIU has yet to agree on proposals consistently put forth by management. Instead, SEIU inexplicably continues to complicate and delay any meaningful progress with stunts such as this recent misinformation campaign.

Everyone surely remembers that when other RNs in our system received market wage adjustment increases in 2022, the SEIU would not agree to these wage increases for our nurses at Clara Maass until September 2023. Our full-time nurses lost on average approximately \$7,000.00 because of the SEIU’s delay in agreeing to this.

Only through the Medical Center’s persistence in negotiations have we been able to realize any progress for our nurses – including an average 12.3% increase of nurses’ salaries during the past year along with significant increases in shift, preceptor and charge differentials. Unfortunately, SEIU continues to misrepresent the hospital’s positions -- and they know it. Today they purposefully misrepresent our policies on wages, paid time off, and benefits. CMMC has proposed the continuation of the same policies providing health, retirement and paid time off that have been inexistence for years at CMMC. In fact, from the outset of bargaining in 2022 CMMC has NOT proposed any reduction in employee benefits, paid time off, or other concessions. Besides these significant economic improvements for our nurses, the parties have agreed to more than 20 economic and non-economic articles for a new contract.

It’s been almost two years. Given these facts which SEIU cannot dispute, there is no reason why there has not already been a settlement.

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