



Hotel workers and their supporters have been leafleting outside the downtown Portland Hilton Hotel and Executive Tower to inform the public about a union-led boycott. Taking part Nov. 15, from left to right, are Hilton workers Allian Smith, John Hefferin and Mary Livengood; Livengood's son Johan; UNITE HERE Local 9 boycott coordinator Eryn Slack; and Maggie Long of SEIU Local 49.

## UNITE HERE Local 9 calls for Hilton boycott

Workers at the downtown Portland Hilton Hotel and Executive Tower are calling for a boycott of their employer.

Portland-based UNITE HERE Local 9 has been in bargaining with the Hilton for four months, with little to show for it, the union's leaders said. On Oct. 26, members voted by 96 percent to authorize a boycott.

Among other things, the union wants to reduce the workload of housekeeping staff; housekeepers say their quotas for the number of rooms they clean are unreasonable.

As one of four unionized hotels in the Portland area, the downtown Portland Hilton is often favored as a meeting place for union events.

But the union is calling on the public not to eat, sleep, or meet at the Portland Hilton until they sign a fair contract. Boycott supporters are asked to call Hilton general manager Tracy Marks at 503-226-1611 to let him know they won't patronize the facility.

Boycott coordinator Eryn Slack said Local 9 plans to seek support for the boycott from the broader labor community and the general public.

The Hilton Hotel also has contracts with the Teamster Unions and Operating Engineers. UNITE HERE and the Teamsters are members of the Change to Win union federation.

Those with questions can call UNITE HERE at 503-230-2304.

## Mt. Hood CC new site for OR-OSHA center

The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division (OR-OSHA) and Mt. Hood Community College have teamed up to establish the state's first Occupational Health and Safety Instructional Center on a college campus.

The new center is the first of its kind in the state and will become a part of the college's Environmental Health and Safety program. MHCC is the only college in Oregon to offer a degree in Environmental Health and Safety.

"Everyone from laborers to law enforcement will be able to obtain the training that addresses health and safety issues," said MHCC program director Dr. Javid Mohtasham.

Students taking classes through the center also will have the opportunity to work toward a degree through the Environmental Health and Safety program.

"The college offers state-of-the-art

instructional facilities, making it a perfect location to house such a center," said OR-OSHA Administrator Michael Wood.

For more information on the center or the Environmental Health and Safety program, call Mohtasham at 503-491-7440.

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