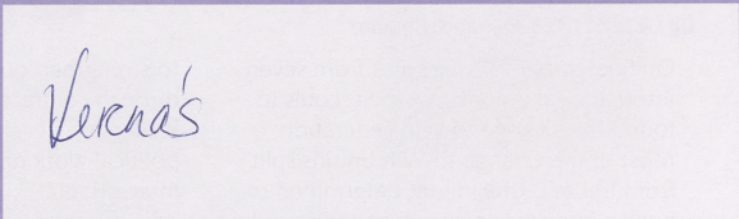


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The 503 VOICE

Vision to Action!



SEIU Local 503, OPEU
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Almost 60 DAS Stewards spent September 24 in training on the new contract language. The online contracts should be available early in October; printed copies will be available in early November.

Record number of Stewards attend DAS contract training

Over 60 Chief Stewards from across the state gathered in Salem on September 24 to train on the changes in the new DAS contract. Turnout was greater than expected, so an additional training has been scheduled for November 19, 2005.

This was one of the quarterly trainings offered to Chief Stewards. This training was an opportunity to get contract questions answered and to network with other stewards.

Each steward received a disk with a PDF of the contract to share with other stewards in their local.

“ The practical exercises we did were particularly helpful. Looking things up in the contract is the best way to learn. ”

Wednesday Martin a DHS advocate for seniors and people with disabilities, Gold Beach



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Next Issue in December...

Everything you wanted to know about elections at SEIU Local 503.

Members Ratify Contracts

DAS: 93%
OUS: 95%
Homecare: 99.9%

Members in the DAS bargaining unit voted in favor of the new contract by 93%. The DAS contract protects health care, provides an additional step for those who lost two steps in the last contract period, gives additional compensation for those at the lowest pay levels, and adds a ninth step.

Members from the Oregon University System voted 95% to accept their new contract. Economics were bargained jointly with DAS. Health care was protected for both full-time and part-time workers - an important issue for OUS members.

Homecare members voted by 99.9% to accept the terms of their second contract! Contract

victories include maintaining health care benefits and Workers' Compensation, first-time dental and vision benefits, a training program, and four paid days off per year.

These contracts were won by members taking action throughout the State. For more details about these contracts, talk to your steward or worksite organizer.

The DAS and OUS contracts will be available online in early October, with print copies available in November. The Homecare contract will be online mid-October, with details going out by mail mid-November.