

Emerging Leaders Gain Skills to Make Us Stronger

"I learned so very much, I now feel more able to be a steward."

"Wow, I learned a lot about what we achieved in our first contract."

"Good hands-on exercises. Great interaction with co-workers."

"It was a lot of fun talking with other caregivers with similar situations and problems."

Homecare Leadership Level II training classes were offered recently in Salem, Portland, and Eugene. Participants learned specific skills needed to understand and enforce our first contract, how to develop a communication structure without a common work site (and in the process get acquainted with co-workers) grievance handling and how to effectively advocate for our clients' needs. It was a full day of training with lots of interactive skill building exercises.

Our new Homecare Orientation Video was also unveiled, a short video designed to help introduce new homecare workers to our union at the SPD orientations.

For more information about upcoming training, call your organizer (*see back page*).

Homecare Commission: Who are they and what do they do?

The Homecare Commission was created by Ballot Measure 99, which was passed by the voters in 2000.

The Homecare Commission is currently focused on creating a statewide registry of homecare workers. This database will make it easier for caregivers and clients to find each other and allow caregivers to increase hours, if desired and to find respite help during absences. SEIU is working with the Commission to get the registry up and running.

In addition, the Homecare Commission is charged with

providing training opportunities to homecare workers and serves as the employer when bargaining with SEIU.

There are nine commissioners appointed by the Governor, five are consumers of homecare services. Consumer representatives are Sharon Ely, Michael Goldhammer, Genevieve Graham, Dayle Niemie, and Michael Volpe. Dr. Estill Dietz is the chair and represents the Governor's Commission on Senior Services. Co-Chair Lynn Cameron represents Oregon Disabilities Commission. The other two commissioners are Ted Stevens, Agencies on Aging and Cindy

Hannum, representing Seniors and People with Disabilities.

The Homecare Commission meets on the first Thursday of each month in Salem and the meetings are open to the public.

The Homecare Commission can be contacted through Sharon Miller, Executive Director.

The Homecare Commission

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