

Look How Far We've Come

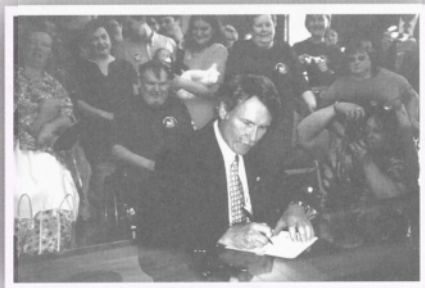
1997



Homecare workers contact SEIU for assistance in forming a union. Union homecare workers go to the State Capitol, fight for and win legislation raising caregivers' pay from an average of \$5.56 to an average of \$7.50 by 1999.

Union homecare workers lobby for and win wage increases. The legislature votes to eliminate funding for the spousal caregivers in 2000.

2000



Spring 2000: Union spousal caregivers go to Salem, tell their stories to the legislature's Emergency Board and to the media. As a result, the Spousal Care Program is reinstated.

Spring/Summer 2000: Homecare workers and allies gather 120,000 signatures to put Measure 99 (creation of the Homecare Commission and extending collective bargaining rights to homecare workers) on the ballot.

November 2000: Measure 99 passes in every county in Oregon.

2001



Spring 2001: Funding for Senior and Disabled Services (SDSD) threatened. Homecare workers write, call and meet with legislators to restore funding and pass HB3816-to implement Measure 99. 6000 postcards are delivered to legislators demanding rights for homecare workers and a voice for clients.

Summer 2001: Funding to maintain current levels of service in SDSD are restored. Homecare Commission is funded - HB 3816 is passed. 08/03/01 - Gov. Kitzhaber signs.

Fall 2001: Homecare workers file for the biggest union election in Oregon's history.

Winter 2001: Homecare workers vote by 92% in favor of having a union. Bargaining surveys are completed, bargaining team elected. Our union is awarded a grant to survey training needs and conduct pilot training for homecare workers.