

# Look How Far We've Come

## Improving Services and Raising Standards

**Welcome to SEIU Local 503, OPEU – the Homecare Workers' Union. By joining together, we are achieving what we cannot accomplish alone.**

**1997:** Union homecare workers go to the State Capitol and win legislation raising care providers' pay \$2.00 on average by 1999.

workers write, call and deliver over 6000 postcards to legislators.



**Winter 2002:** Homecare workers help elect Governor Ted Kulongoski and other pro-worker legislators.

**2003:** After 17 months of bargaining, Homecare workers settle their first Homecare Contract!!

**April 2004:** For the first time ever, homecare workers have employer-paid health care and workers' comp coverage.

**2005:** Second Contract adds paid time off, a homecare training program, dental and vision coverage.

**2007:** Third Contract brings the hourly pay rate of homecare workers to \$10.20. It also sets out the rules for a new, on-line computer registry, which will make it easier for consumer/employers who need homecare to locate providers who meet their needs.



**Spring 2000:**

Union spousal caregivers go to Salem, tell their stories to the legislature's Emergency Board and to the media. The result? The Spousal Care Program is reinstated.

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

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

**Spring 2001:** Funding for Senior and Disabled Services (SDSD) threatened. Homecare



**Summer 2001:** Funding to SDSD is restored. Homecare Commission is funded - HB 3816 is passed. Gov. Kitzhaber signs August 8, 2001.



**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.

**Spring 2002:** Homecare workers begin bargaining their first contract.

