

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT:
Bill Meyerson 203-624-5161 x309

Y-NH dietary workers to also strike August 27 if no contact reached

**Seek parity with Yale University workers, fair
process for other hospital workers to unionize
Call for arbitration as strike alternative**

Union dietary workers will strike Wednesday, August 27 if a contract with Yale New Haven Hospital, Yale's teaching hospital, is not reached. The 150 dietary workers, members of New England Health Care Employees Union, District 1199/SEIU, have been without contract for more than two years. They prepare and serve meals to nearly 1000 patients and visitors and staff at the hospital.

The workers are seeking phased-in wage and pension parity with Yale University workers and a fair process by which other hospital workers can choose to join the union without management intimidation. The National Labor Relations Board has cited the hospital several times for breaking federal labor by violating workers right to organize.

At contract negotiations this week, workers called on the hospital administration to submit the disputed issues to binding arbitration as an alternative to a strike. The Hospital dietary workers are set to strike at the same time as thousands of Yale University workers of Locals 34 and 35, one-half of who work at the Yale Medical Center.

Dietary worker Emma Wright explained that Yale hospital and university accounts for 25 percent of all jobs in New Haven and what happens at Yale affects the entire community. "For the good of the entire city, together hospital and university workers have to make Yale jobs, good jobs."

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