Some Info Is Not Enough
At the end of July, we are going to vote on whether to go on strike in October. Most of us have heard that Kaiser’s attacks include: outsourcing, eliminating pensions for new hires, higher co-pays, two-tier wages, loss of healthcare benefits for spouses and family upon retirement, and more. But most of us are still unclear on the specifics on each of these attacks.

If we walk around the hospital or the clinics and we ask people for information, most people can’t answer what department Kaiser is planning to outsource, or what the wage difference will be for the two-tier wage system, or how exactly our family healthcare benefits will be affected.

Preparing for a strike must include the most detailed information that we can get on what’s at stake. Some information is not enough, we need it all.

An Insult to Injury
It is not a rare occurrence that mistakes are made on our checks. It is alarming though, when a whole department’s checks are wrong and have been for quite some time, which is what has been happening in the Emergency Department. And to add insult to injury, management in the ED wants us to fix this by submitting time correction sheets when they were the ones who made the mistake.

But people are protesting against this so management doesn’t get away with it. These and other maneuvers from management affect us all. And when we all decide to act together, we have more power.

Speak Out Now Presentation
The French Yellow Vest Movement
Since November of 2018, there have been weekly protests, sometimes involving hundreds of thousands of people, angry at the government’s policies. Come and hear a presentation by an activist and participant in the Yellow Vest Movement in Lyons, France.

Thursday, July 25th, 2019, 7pm
Berkeley City College (Auditorium)
2050 Center St. Berkeley, 94704

Oakland City and Kaiser’s Affair
Oakland and Kaiser, sitting in a tree K-i-$-i-n-g.
First comes money then comes more money.
Oakland’s City government is considering the proposal for a new 900-million-dollar Kaiser headquarters’ building. Kaiser is seducing the city by claiming that this building will be a space for 7200 employees, that the construction work will be done by union labor, and that the city will receive large bonuses from Kaiser after it is completed.

Kaiser is painting a picture to the media that this deal will be a grand benefit for Oakland. But we know that no amount of money Kaiser gives the city will exceed the profits they will continue to make. We all know this project is not to help the city, our patients, or labor.

The Same Sinking Boat
Mental health workers at Kaiser represented by NUHW just decided to reject Kaiser’s contract proposal and are going back to the bargaining table. Nurses at Kaiser represented by CNA, have been fighting for better staffing across many departments. And 85,000 members of the Coalition of Unions at Kaiser are currently preparing to go on strike in order to defend their working conditions.

No matter the job, no matter the union, Kaiser’s attacks are affecting us all. It is time that we see that we are all in this ship together and take control of it before we all sink with it.

Taking a Break
The newsletter will be taking a break. We will be back on Tuesday, August 6th.
See you soon!