Every year we celebrate the extraordinary work of nurses during National Nurses Week. Nurses are the heart of our nation’s health care system; they are the human beings who put warmth and kindness into the sometimes-impersonal world of modern health care.

This week, we honor and thank the nurses of Local 1000—working in Units 17 and 20—who do so much to provide for their patients in a range of state facilities, in often difficult and sometimes dangerous working conditions.

Working in prison situations, safety is paramount, and in March, the California Correctional Health care Services recognized our RN Naomi Musembi-Johnson as the Patient Safety Champion for 2017, an award granted by the statewide Patient Safety Committee.

Musembi-Johnson began her state service as a psychiatric technician and has been a strong patient advocate from the beginning. Her career continued as a Licensed Vocational Nurse at Ironwood State Prison in Blythe until 2014, when she made the commitment to become a Registered Nurse. A year later, she joined the nursing team at Chuckwalla Valley State Prison, where she works today.

In recognizing her commitment to her profession, the Patient Safety Committee noted her passion for learning and supporting new training initiatives. In addition, she was lauded for providing “exemplary nursing support for her patients at the bedside.”

“To me, patient safety means an awareness of cultural diversity, which plays a major role in nursing today,” said Musembi-Johnson. “I continuously face communication barriers due to the many cultures that have been incarcerated. Many of my patients are still bound to their cultural beliefs, and it is my responsibility as a nurse to provide exceptional care by putting their needs first.”

Naomi is just as dedicated to being a member of her union. She is the senior steward for DLC 710 and is the senior steward at Chuckawalla. She has stepped into her leadership and advocated for her colleagues as a union representative. As she’s done with her patients, Naomi understands the importance of diversity in building positive relationships while she builds a stronger union.

“I Choose to be a member of a Union that embraces culture and community. We are all the same and stronger together.”

–Naomi Musembi-Johnson, RN, Job Steward
Chuckawalla Valley State Prison

“NURSES DELIVER COMFORT, CARING AND COMPASSION”

#iChooseMyUnion

“I Choose to be a member of a Union that embraces culture and community. We are all the same and stronger together.”

–Naomi Musembi-Johnson, RN, Job Steward
Chuckawalla Valley State Prison

“NURSES WEEK 2018

“Our nurses are on the front line of patient care, and we’re honoring them this week and always for their innovation, inspiration and influence.”

–Kim Cowart, RN
Bargaining Unit 17 Chair

–Rionna Jones
Pharmacy Technician,
Bargaining Unit 20 Chair
IT MEMBERS UNITED
CALL FOR DAY OF ACTION MAY 16

Take action now to tell the state to fix “IT!”

While we’ve made significant progress in reaching agreement on a number of issues, the state chooses to make no investment in our IT workforce through compensation, salaries and training. On April 18, the state was not prepared to meet with our IT Reclass Bargaining Team to discuss our proposals related to the impact of the reclassification implemented in January, including salaries.

The state continues to waste $2.5 billion in taxpayer dollars each year on pricey outsourcing, paying contractors 2 times more than state employees rather than invest in their own IT workforce.

On Wednesday, May 16, IT Members United Choose to take action to demand the state make “IT” right!

Your action is needed to show the state of California they’re not done with the IT Reclass until they address salaries.

Prepare for the Day of Action now by visiting seiu1000.org/IT-Reclass. Make a commitment to join your coworkers, choose to become a member of Local 1000 and share your stories to tell the state why you are standing up to make “IT” right.

“I Choose to Make IT right because we’re making a difference in the jobs and lives of more than 8,600 IT professionals.”
-
Vincent Green
Information Technology Specialist I, DVA

Join us
MAY 19 FOR SOMOS UNA FAMILIA

We celebrate family, community, culture and unity

Our union reaches into the community to build stronger relationships in many ways, and on May 19, we’re building bonds with Sacramento’s Latinos with a Saturday fair with something for everyone in the family.

Activities include an opening blessing, live music and dance performances, arts and crafts booths, face painting, piñatas, kids activities and a free book giveaway for all students. We’ll also be raising funds in support of our SEIU brothers and sisters in Puerto Rico.

“Somos Una Familia” is sponsored by our union’s Latin@ Committee—one of nine Local 1000 Human Rights Committees—and is a prime example of our union’s goal to “provide a good life for all Californians.”

“Building a stronger sense of heritage and culture for our community is a union value,” said Miguel Cordova, chair of the Latin@ Committee. “We are demonstrating that we are all one family.”

Have You Mailed Your Leadership Election Ballot?

Use your voice to elect our Union leaders! Ballots must be received by May 21, 2018

More information online at seiu1000.org/local-1000-elections