

# Speak Out Now at Kaiser

*A workplace newsletter for Kaiser Oakland workers*

June 3rd, 2026

## PATIENT SAFETY IS OUR SAFETY

A few Wednesdays ago, transport workers from Kaiser Oakland were laid off. They performed the important task of moving certain patients back and forth from different hospitals buildings. And now that some of them are gone, their task remains no less important.

Why did Kaiser make this decision? Management has barely given any justifications, besides vague declarations.

For years, transport workers have struggled with workplace injuries caused by carrying or pushing excessive weight. Despite years of demanding better conditions, Kaiser management didn't do anything about it--not even providing an injury and illness prevention plan, IIPP, as required by law.

Recently OSHA finally intervened. And not much later, transport workers were laid off. Coincidence?

As transport workers face layoffs, other staff may be asked to perform their duties without adequate training — and with the same risk of injury.

If you are asked to transport patients across the facility, proceed with caution. The administration has demonstrated that worker health and safety are not among its top priorities.

## HIGHLAND HOSPITAL ORGANIZING CAMPAIGN! KICK-OFF MEETING THIS SUNDAY

Highland Hospital workers are facing more than a hundred threatened layoffs. The consequences extend far beyond the workforce — they put the future of Highland itself at risk. As the only Level 1 Trauma Center in the East Bay, this hospital is a critical resource for everyone in our community, whether we recognize it today or not. So what can we do?

Join our organizing campaign meeting and show that our collective power can protect the public resources our community depends on.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 7TH AT 3 PM  
JUDGE HENRY RAMSEY JR. CENTER  
2939 ELLIS ST, BERKELEY  
(NEAR ASHBY BART)**



## WATCH OUT FOR FLOCK

Communities across the Bay Area are fighting to protect immigrant residents and everyone's privacy by pushing back against the use of Flock cameras. Local politicians and police have defended the widespread installation of these cameras across the Bay Area and across the country, saying they help fight crime. But there are growing community surveillance and privacy concerns with these cameras as Flock has a documented track record of sharing camera footage with ICE and the federal government.

Recently, Kaiser had two of these cameras installed--one outside the main building's parking garage and one outside the entrance to the ER. What message does this send to immigrant patients and staff? Didn't they promise that patients would be safe on their premises?

It falls on us to challenge these attacks on patient and staff privacy. They don't keep us safe. We keep us safe.

## NURSES DESERVE BETTER

Nurses are chronically understaffed and burned out. For years, hospital leadership has neglected to address this crisis by hiring adequate staff. And with CNA negotiations ongoing for a new contract after the current one expires at the end of August, there are fears management will push for more of a tiered wage structure, cut benefits, and expand the use of AI as a tool to eliminate positions.

Their indifference was on full display during Nurses Appreciation Week. This year, recognition from administration was nearly nonexistent — barely anything but a few deflated balloons. Which maybe was a little step up from receiving a pet rock some years ago...

### MANAGERS BE LIKE:



**"HAPPY NURSES APPRECIATION WEEK"**