

1199NW Staff Union

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The Fund for Union Democracy
465 California Street, Ste. 1600
San Francisco, California 94104

To our Sisters and Brothers:

For years, UHW-West has been a shining example of an SEIU local that has fought against worker injustice while holding highly democratic principles.

They've inspired us with their achievements in:

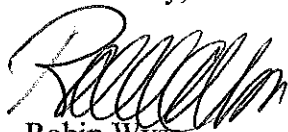
- Bargaining contracts with high standards in wages, benefits, and staffing
- Involving members in all aspects of organizing, bargaining, and politics
- Organizing tens of thousands of new members into the labor movement

Therefore, as a staff union of organizers and support staff, we are greatly saddened and concerned about the trusteeship of UHW-West. It is alarming to us that a local union would be attacked and dismantled for defending democratic trade unionist principles, such as the members' right to a fair vote to decide with which local union they will belong.

We support the decision of our SEIU Healthcare 1199NW President Diane Sosne not to send our staff to California to participate in the trusteeship of one of SEIU's best locals.

In the light of this historic stifling of dissent in our national union, and the enormous shift of resources away from what should be our real fight, our staff union membership has overwhelmingly voted to make a contribution of \$4500 to the Fund for Union Democracy. We will encourage others to do the same.

In solidarity,



Robin Wyss
President