The hard-working, dedicated staff at Janus of Santa Cruz is struggling to help people overcome addiction because too many of them can’t afford to continue doing a job they love.

These workers formed a union to fight for fair wages that can put an end to constant turnover that has resulted in more than half of Janus workers leaving for other jobs in the past two years. But after more than a year of negotiations Janus management handed them a “Last, Best and Final Offer” with a meager 1 percent raise and even higher health insurance costs. The offer also denied workers the basic right to take grievances over unfair discipline to a neutral arbitrator.

Janus workers overwhelmingly rejected this offer. Now they are holding an informational picket on Thursday May 30 to inform the public that high worker turnover at Janus is making it even harder for Santa Cruz to address its addiction crisis.

Even though Janus executives say they’re done bargaining, we can bring them back to the table by showing that workers and community members stand together for a fair contract that makes Janus a better place to work and receive care.

“\textit{This job is my calling,} but I can’t support my family on what they’re paying me. So many of my coworkers have left because they couldn’t make ends meet, and the people who suffer most are our clients who can’t count on us to see them through their recovery.”

Matt Van Nuys
Janus Addiction Counselor

\textit{For more information, please contact NUHW Organizer Justin Palmer at (215) 620-3109 or jpalmer@nuhw.org.}