

# Media Alert

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## **Nurses Armstrong County Memorial Hospital Set to Strike on Sunday**

*In the middle of a crippling staffing crisis, ACMH hospital management is refusing to invest in effective nurse retention efforts. The nurses are walking out to grab management's attention.*

**Kittanning, PA** -- In the last year, more than 40 nurses have left ACMH. They're leaving because they are burned out from short staffing, underappreciated, and undervalued. They're going to other hospitals in the region where they are making \$6 more per hour. These are the very nurses who have repeatedly risked their own lives to care for their community for the last two years.

"Nurses are fleeing the bedside not because we don't like being caregivers – we love our patients and our role as their advocates," says Cassie Wood, R.N., president of ACMH Nurses United. "What we don't like is feeling that the skill, experience, and commitment we bring to the job every day are grossly undervalued. That means that patient care is undervalued."

Yesterday, the nurses overwhelmingly rejected hospital management's latest offer, a slight change from their last position. They remain focused on safe staffing and investment in and retention of the hospital's current frontline caregivers. As always, they remain open to talks.

**The 220 nurses at ACMH have been in contract negotiations with the hospital since July 2021 with retention of staff at the forefront of their negotiations. They will be walking off the job from 7:00 a.m. Sunday, March 13 through 4:59 a.m. on Friday, March 18 to call attention to hospital management's refusal to prioritize nurse retention and therefore patient care.**

**WHAT:** ACMH Nurses Strike

**WHO:** In addition to nurses from the hospital, elected officials and community allies will be there for noon rallies on Sunday, 3/13; Tuesday, 3/15; Wednesday, 3/16; and Thursday, 3/17 to speak in support of the ACMH nurses and the community they serve.

**WHERE:** Outside ACMH Hospital, 1 Nolte Dr, Kittanning, PA 16201

**WHEN:** Sunday, March 13, at 7 a.m. to Thursday, March 17, at 7 p.m.  
7 a.m. - 7 p.m. daily

**NOON Rallies on Sunday, 3/13; Tuesday, 3/15; Wednesday, 3/16 and Thursday, 3/17;  
SPEECHES TO BEGIN AT NOON ON THOSE DAYS**

**WHY:** The ACMH nurses want hospital management to invest in effective nurse retention efforts to staff appropriately and prioritize patient care.

ACMH Nurses United is an affiliate of the Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals, which represents more than 9,000 nurses and healthcare professionals across the Commonwealth and was founded on the belief that patients receive the best care when clinical-care staff have a strong voice to advocate for both patients and themselves.

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