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Jeanes Hospital Professionals Vote “YES” to Unionize

In a “Sonotone and an Armour-Globe Election,” the Professionals Voted Both to Form a Union and to Join a Pre-Existing Union – Their Colleagues, the Jeanes Technical Specialists, Who Voted to Unionize on February 1st and Are Bargaining For Their First Contract Now

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Philadelphia, PA – Today, 79 Jeanes Hospital professionals – including Staff Chaplains, Nutritionists, Medical Technologists, Physician Assistants, Registered Pharmacists, Clinical Specialists, Social Workers, Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech Therapists, and Cardiopulmonary Therapists – who practice under the sprawling Temple Health system at Jeanes Hospital voted overwhelmingly to unionize with PASNAP, the Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals, and to join their colleagues – 128 Jeanes technical specialists – in their pre-existing Union.

The vote count was completed after voting closed at 7:30 p.m. tonight. 88% of professionals voted in favor of unionizing with PASNAP. They join Jeanes technical specialists, who voted to Unionize with PASNAP on February 1, 2024, and are bargaining for their first contract now.

“I voted YES for our Union because I believe that my coworkers and I not only deserve to have our voices heard, but we also deserve to be part of the decision-making process that greatly impacts our jobs and our workplace,” says Occupational Therapist Sarah Guess. “The better our workplace, the better we can serve and care for our patients.”

“We are thrilled to be able to unite with our tech and nurse colleagues to make Jeanes the best place to work, which has been our primary goal from the beginning,” says Occupational Therapist Diana Parkinson. “We are looking forward to sitting down with Temple to improve our workplace in many ways, including getting fair recognition for our experience.”

Temple Health likes to tell its employees across its multiple campuses: “We are ONE TEMPLE,” using the tagline, “The Best Care, Wherever You Are.” But the employees’ experiences working at Temple Health’s satellite campuses don’t always bear that out.

In November 2022, the nurses and allied health professionals at Temple Main in North Philadelphia negotiated new three-year contracts that represented major steps forward in protecting and retaining seasoned caregivers and in providing safe and exceptional patient care. Their contracts have inspired

caregivers at Temple's other campuses to seek similar seats at the table to better advocate for their patients and themselves.

"Jeanes is home to so many wonderful staff, and I am so excited that even more of us are coming together to make our home a better place to work and an even better place to get care," says CT Technologist Melissa Van Reuter.

"The more employees feel respected and valued, the better the care we can give to our patients," says Interventional Radiology Staff Technologist Maureen Brown. "That's why I am so proud of all of my colleagues for making the decision to form our Union together!"

The Jeanes Hospital professionals join 128 Jeanes Hospital technical specialists (including Surgical Techs, Radiology Techs, Anesthesia Techs, Medical Lab Technicians, and LPNs, among others) in their Union. Together, they join more than 3,600 Temple Health caregivers represented by PASNAP – 2,250 nurses and allied professionals at Temple Main, 360-plus nurses at Jeanes Hospital, 75 nurses in Temple's outpatient clinics, 35 CRNAs who practice at Jeanes Hospital and Fox Chase Cancer Center, 23 research nurses at Temple Main, as well as nearly 600 nurses, technical specialists, and research professionals at Fox Chase Cancer Center and 300 nurses and technical specialists at Chestnut Hill Hospital who unionized with PASNAP in 2023 and are currently in bargaining for their first contract.

The Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals (PASNAP) represents more than 11,000 frontline nurses and allied professionals across Pennsylvania and was founded on the belief that patients do better when critical care staff have a voice to advocate for their patients and themselves.