

Dissolution of the SEIU Healthcare Defense and Strike Fund

Resolution 03-11

Background:

Historically, SEIU-UHW has maintained a local strike fund and has also paid \$1.50 per member per month (hospital and nursing home division only) into the SEIU Healthcare Defense and Strike Fund. This was a strike fund formed by certain healthcare locals across the country that paid \$200 a week strike benefits to hospital and nursing home workers who went on strike for more than a week.

The trustees of the SEIU Healthcare Defense and Strike Fund have voted to disband the fund. As a result, the fund is returning \$4,149,949.56 to UHW.

UHW's local strike fund is currently at \$2.44 million and we are budgeted to increase it by \$67,000 a month.

UHW owes approximately \$4.2 million to SEIU International to cover costs incurred by International staff that assisted during the trusteeship, helping our members bargain contracts and defend from NUHW decertification efforts. We have an agreement to repay this debt at a rate of \$250,000 per month.

Whereas, SEIU-UHW has a healthy local strike fund that we are adding to each month.

Whereas, SEIU-UHW has a significant debt to the International union for costs incurred during the trusteeship.

Whereas, the SEIU Healthcare Defense and Strike Fund has disbanded and returned \$4,149,949.56 to UHW.

Whereas, SEIU-UHW has an ambitious plan to fight for our future by organizing healthcare workers, providing representational excellence, recruiting and developing 10,000 leaders and being the voice of affordable, accessible quality care and quality jobs.

Be it resolved that UHW will place \$2,149,949.56 of the disbursed funds into the UHW strike fund, growing it to over \$4.5 million, and apply \$2 million to our debt to SEIU. This will allow us to reduce payments to the International by \$125,000 per month which we will apply to the goals of organizing healthcare workers, in recognizing the unique injustices and critical challenges confronting homecare members with the goal of developing a plan to overhaul the financing of the homecare system, providing representational excellence, developing 10,000 leaders and being the voice of affordable, accessible quality care and jobs.