San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council

June 28th, 2024

Yvonne Bell, President/Chief Executive Officer
Innercare
852 East Danenberg Drive
El Centro, CA 92243

Dear Ms. Bell,

Innercare is an important part of the healthcare system that supports our community, and it has been successful because of the dedication and commitment of its frontline workers. As we face a short staffing crisis in healthcare, Innercare's below-market wages and refusal to listen to worker concerns have only exacerbated this situation, leading to significant impacts on worker retention and patient care.

Innercare workers are organizing for the power to have a real voice on the job to address these issues and ensure that they are fully supported in providing the high-quality care our community needs.

I have received reports that three workers at Innercare, Alejandro Ascolani, Nayeli Garcia, and Francisco Borjon, were recently terminated from their jobs for their involvement in union organizing efforts. It is my understanding that the union, SEIU-UHW, has filed Unfair Labor Practice charges on these cases. I intend to track the progress of these charges as matters proceed.

Innercare must reinstate these hard-working employees to their positions. Clinic employees have the right to form a union and bargain collectively, and should not face barriers, threats, or intimidation when they choose to exercise those rights. Innercare management must immediately stop all harassment, surveillance, and intimidation tactics that are aimed at deterring workers from voting to form a union.

When labor and management are able to work together in a partnership we see clear gains for all parties, and real solutions that can lead to better quality of care for patients and healthier communities overall.

I am respectfully request a correspondence from Ms. Bell that can help elucidate me regarding the basis for these terminations, and your plan to work cooperatively with the union for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,

Brigette Browning
Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the San Diego & Imperial Counties Labor Council