

10 MAY 2016

Campaign update #12 public sector mental health enterprise agreement

ANMF members from across the Victorian public mental health sector met at ANMF House yesterday (9 May) to hear a report back on the progress of negotiations for the new mental health enterprise agreement, as well as the outcome of the nurses and midwives public sector agreement.

Public sector nurses and midwives agreement outcome:

ANMF (Vic Branch) secretary Lisa Fitzpatrick reported to the meeting the outcomes of negotiations with the employers' representative VHIA and the government which led to an historic government offer in relation to wages and improved conditions including better organisational change and consultation provisions as well as greater health and safety mechanisms. Public sector nurses and midwives unanimously endorsed their proposed settlement at a state-wide members meeting on Thursday 5 May. Many of the outcomes achieved are the same as the mental health nurses claims, including the wages claim. The ANMF mental health members are seeking to replicate this outcome in the mental health agreement.

A copy of the presentation from yesterday's meeting including the detail of the salaries agreed in the public general sector and a copy of the ANMF (Vic Branch) mental health members resolution are available at anmfvic.asn.au/eba2016

ANMF mental health negotiating team provided a report on the progress of negotiations:

1. VHIA has advised they are investigating EFT and costings in relation to the claim for nurse:patient ratios.
2. VHIA has not agreed to the joint union claim for a community workload management clause and the unions have requested an alternate proposal.
3. The majority of other claims remain subject to further discussions even though ANMF provided documentation related to mental health nurses' claims before the nominal expiry date of the public sector mental health EBA.
4. Some claims have been agreed in principle including the claim for extending nurse educator positions.
5. Key claims in relation to ensuring the community continue to have access to community mental health nurses have been rejected by employers.

Following the ANMF report, members resolved to direct ANMF to press for an outcome for mental health nurses consistent with the outcome for general public sector nurses and to call on the government to facilitate a quick resolution of the negotiations with the assistance of Mr Greg Smith, former Fair Work Commissioner deputy president. The resolution also foreshadows the commencement of industrial action on 19 May in the event the ANMF (Vic Branch) Secretary believes negotiations and a settlement are not progressing expeditiously. The ANMF (Vic Branch) mental health members resolution can be found at anmfvic.asn.au/eba2016

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Awash in red: members at the statewide members meeting at ANMF House

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Red #ValueRecogniseReward campaign T-shirts are available

Red #ValueRecogniseReward campaign T-shirts are available for members at ANMF House (540 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne) between 8.45am and 5pm or online at <http://anfvic.myshopify.com>

#ValueRecogniseReward our mental health nurses campaign material

Download a 'Demand nursing ratios in mental health' campaign poster at anmfvic.asn.au/eba2016

Please contact your Job Rep/Organiser to get some 'Demand nursing ratios in mental health' campaign stickers.



#Value#Recognise#Reward our mental health nurses

Spread the red: update your social media profile pic

Members, including those unable to participate in protected industrial action, are encouraged to spread the red on social media.

Please ensure you keep in the loop for all our campaign updates going out on Facebook: <http://bit.ly/keepinloop16>

To catch up on the campaign story so far, and where we're going, please bookmark our Campaign Hub: <http://bit.ly/EBAchub>

When protected industrial action begins, please share your red T-shirt imagery online using the hashtag #ValueRecogniseReward for Twitter and Instagram. Alternatively, you can post your photos to the ANMF Facebook page, or tag us on Twitter: [@ANMFVicBranch](https://twitter.com/ANMFVicBranch)

Remember that our strength is our membership

Most Victorian nurses and midwives are already ANMF members – if you haven't joined yet or you know someone who hasn't, please encourage them to join. Non-members can join online here: members.anmfvic.asn.au/CalculateRate

If you don't have a Job Rep on your ward, unit or community team, it's time to put up your hand and help your union and your colleagues achieve your claims for 2016. Speak to another ANMF Job Rep or call ANMF Reception on 9275 9333 and a Job Rep Pack will be sent out to you. ANMF will keep you updated via further campaign updates, our website, emails and text messages where appropriate. Please ensure you update your details, including a personal email address, at the Member Portal at anmfvic.asn.au by logging into the member portal: members.anmfvic.asn.au