

11 APRIL 2016

## Public sector mental health enterprise agreement: campaign update #9

**1. Have you voted in the protected industrial action ballot?** Members all over the state should have received their ballot paper from the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC). We urge you to vote **'yes'** and return your ballot paper as soon as possible. Delays with Australia Post risk your vote not being received in time to be counted. ANMF has provided a priority sticker to adhere to the AEC Reply Paid envelope.

If you haven't received a ballot paper from the AEC, and your workplace and postal address details are up to date, contact the AEC Senior Returning Officer, Jeff Webb, without delay on 9285 7141 or email [vicelections@aec.gov.au](mailto:vicelections@aec.gov.au) with your full name and public sector workplace.

**2. Enterprise bargaining update.** Your EBA expired on 31 March and the finalisation of a new agreement is our top priority. The ANMF has tabled all its clauses in relation to members' claims. Matters discussed at our latest meeting (7 April) with the Victorian Hospitals Industrial Association (VHIA) and the Health and Community Services Union (HACSU) were the union agreed claim for community workload management and mental health members' claim for nurse to patient ratios within inpatient units.

Members have an essential role in the EBA process. We urge you to promote your claim and have positive discussions with your colleagues and managers about the enterprise agreement. Posters and stickers will be distributed in workplaces to support the nursing ratios claim soon.



**3. Employer claims.** VHIA has now confirmed all its clauses have been tabled, in addition it has discussed proposals for future improvements, including a 25-hour nursing roster (e.g. reduction in night duty shifts to 9 hours) and revisiting eligibility for portability of service for Psychiatric Enrolled Nurse Level 3. Any decisions in relation to reaching agreement about these matters are subject to discussions with our members.

**4. Statewide member meeting No. 2.** The next ANMF member meeting is on 5 May at the Carson Conference Centre at ANMF House. This will be an important meeting to report on the progress of negotiations. Members must register for the event, as well as for transport and childcare, which will be provided. Register here <http://bit.ly/registermeeting2mh>.

**5. Forensic care.** Negotiations for a new Forensic care EBA commence on 13 April. We will keep our Forensic care mental health nurses abreast in future updates. The Forensic care protected action ballot opens on 18 April and closes 10 May. Vote 'yes' for your right to take protected industrial action, in the event that action is required.

Join the campaign, attend meetings and achieve the improvements we deserve. Enterprise bargaining time is the most critical opportunity to improve our wages and conditions. 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](http://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 your details are correct by logging into the member portal: [members.anmfvic.asn.au](http://members.anmfvic.asn.au).