



Dear Local 7 UFCW Registered Nurses and Advanced Practice Nurses,

We have been reflecting on how to express our gratitude and appreciation for all of you – there are no words and no token gift that would capture the deep gratitude we have for each one of you.

Collectively we all experienced a historic year **together**, when the world shut down the frontline nurses in our many roles showed up and cared for the community, our families and each other through a global pandemic. We will never forget this experience.

We all worked while learning about a new disease. We all worked while trying to keep our families, friends, and colleagues safe. We all worked while we all were grieving. We all worked because being a nurse is our “Why”.

You should all be proud to be part of a labor union, UFCW Local 7, who advocated and fought daily to ensure PPE and improved safety. UFCW President Kim Cordova brought media attention to the plight of the essential frontline workers during this pandemic. Sadly, we all lost union sisters and brothers in the other industries that local 7 represents.

Local 7 collaborated with unions across KP nationally to secure COVID benefits and protect our employees from discipline while caring for patients in this pandemic. They worked with other local unions and advocated at the State Capitol to help pass the enhanced Whistle Blower protection and the Healthy Families and Workplaces Act.

You all are HEROs!! How do you thank the HEROs....

We will thank you by advocating in both Local and National bargaining on behalf of our heroic nurses and all our frontline workforce. We deserve the benefits we have earned, work-life balance-- time to take care of yourselves and heal. We are heartbroken that an organization that made 6.5 BILLION during a global pandemic believes you all deserve less.

We are front line nursing colleagues with you, we are grateful for the union leaders around us that fight the fight daily. We are ALL the union!

“When you’re a nurse you know that everyday you will touch a life or a life will touch yours.” ~Author Unknown

With Gratitude,

Becky Sassaman, RN, BSN, HNB-BC, UFCW Local 7 RN Lead Steward
Caroline Andrew, FNP-BC, UFCW Local 7 Union Steward