



HPAE

LOCAL 5186 NEWSLETTER

A Newsletter for the members of HPAE Local 5186 at Heights University Hospital

The Turning Point

October, 2025

A Message From Your Local Union President

Dear Local 5186 member,

As you have heard, Management has sent layoff notices, threatened to cut services, and even threatened to close Heights Hospital. As a Union, we will stand together to protect our jobs and our hospital. There is a lot of rumors and news going around, and a lot of work to do, so we have put together a short "Everything You Need To Know" for you. We will continue to fight and to keep you informed.

Thank you for Standing Strong.

- Rebecca Lowe, HPAE 5186 President

Everything You Need To Know

What's Going On?

Management is begging the government to bail them out, even though these owners claimed during bankruptcy that they had the money to take over our hospital. Instead of meeting their commitments they are now threatening to unlawfully close our hospital if the state doesn't give them money.

On October 15, the Department of Health responded to Management informing them of their legal obligation to adhere to the promises and agreements they made when they took over our hospital. DOH is demanding that the owners fulfill their end of the deal by "taking the necessary steps to provide the necessary funding."

What is Management Doing?

Management continues to lobby elected officials for a blank check. They have not provided our union or the government with any plan to keep our Hospital open or protect our Jobs.

What is Our Union Doing?

Our Union is fighting to hold Hudson Regional Accountable! HPAE Leadership is in constant contact with local and state elected officials. Union RNs have been reaching out directly to HRH CEO Nizar Kifaieh demanding he show us his plan - no one has heard back.

On 10/8, HPAE Members Spoke to the Jersey City City Council, demanding that the City Permanently zone the ENTIRE Hospital property for only an acute care Hospital.

On 10/10, HPAE members joined our coworkers in Local 1199J for a meeting with local politicians and community leaders.

COMING UP: Our endorsed candidate for Governor, Mikie Sherrill, will be speaking at our Labor Walk in Jersey City this Saturday (10/18) at 08:00 AM. If she is elected, she will be in charge of the Department of Health, and we will need her help to hold HRH accountable. RSVP: <https://forms.office.com/r/qP4qyVwT43>

What Can I Do?

- 1) **Show Up:** Labor Walk 08:00 AM October 18, 2025, Seafarers International Union, 104 Broadway, Jersey City, NJ. *Members who stay afterwards to knock on Union Members' doors to remind them to vote by November 4 will receive a \$75 stipend (usually about 2-4 hours).*
- 2) **Remain Calm and Don't Spread Rumors** - Management is counting on creating a panic so that elected officials are forced to write them a blank check. When you hear any information, make sure it has been verified by a trusted source. Since things are happening quickly, be sure to check the date on any articles or posts you read.
- 3) **Stay Informed** - Up to date information will be posted on www.hpae.org/local/local-5186/



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www.hpae.org
www.facebook.com/hpae.aft



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In The News:

HPAE President Debbie White's Letter to the DOH: <https://www.hpae.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/HPAE-ltr-to-DOH.pdf>

"NJDOH on Heights Hospital; HRH Cannot Simply Close a Hospital Overnight:" <https://hudsoncountyview.com/njdoh-on-heights-hospital-hrh-cannot-simply-close-a-hospital-overnight/>

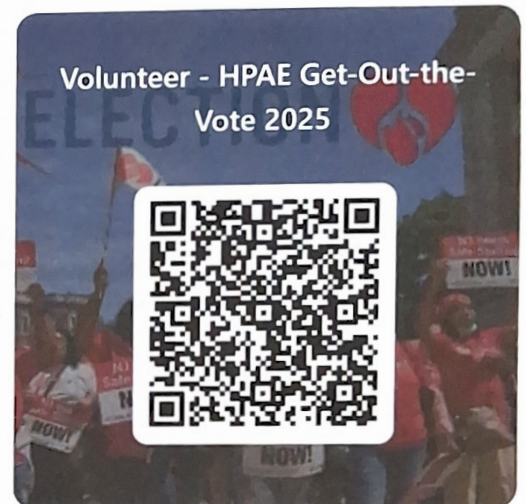
"Jersey City Council Passes Resolution Seeking to Save Heights Hospital:" <https://hudsoncountyview.com/jersey-city-council-passes-emergency-resolution-seeking-to-save-heights-hospital/>

NJDOH Letter to Hudson Regional: <https://www.hpae.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/2025-10-14-Carepoint-Placey-ltr-Nabulsi.pdf>

2025 Get Out The Vote

HPAE has endorsed candidates running for Governor, NJ Senate, NJ Assembly and Local Offices, who support the issues important to HPAE members. Join us as we make phone calls and knock on doors to educate and inform our union co-workers about the importance of Voting.

- ✓ **Safe Staffing for All**
- ✓ **Protect Healthcare**
- ✓ **Protect Workers' Rights**



- Scan the QR code or copy this link into your browser <https://forms.office.com/r/qP4qyWwT43>, and sign up for Phone Banks and Labor Walks. They are held Mondays from 6-8pm; and Labor Walks on Saturdays from 9am-12noon in person throughout the state.
- Feeling nervous? Don't worry, training is provided at each phone bank and labor walk session.
- For anyone who participates, they will receive a \$75 stipend for each phone bank and labor walk session who signs in and completes the session activity.

If you have any questions or need more information please contact Alethea Dixon, HPAE Public Policy Staff, adixon@hpae.org.