



JNESO
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the professional health care union

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JNESO Members Protest Shuttle Cancellation at St. Michael's Medical Center

Hospital decision ignores arbitrator's order

North Brunswick, NJ---(Oct. 21, 2021)--- Members of JNESO, the professional healthcare union, today staged a demonstration at St. Michael's Medical Center in Newark to protest the hospital's elimination of a shuttle service between the hospital and a remote employee parking area.

An arbitrator ordered the hospital to reinstate the shuttle service more than six months ago. St. Michael's has not complied with the order, leaving nurses, technicians and other healthcare specialists often to walk unaccompanied following their 12-hour day and night shifts, through a dark and deserted neighborhood, uneven pavement and bad weather conditions.

The shuttle served employees as recently as early 2020 but was canceled during covid and not resumed, as a cost-cutting measure.

Virginia Treacy, Staff Representative, called the shuttle cancellation an insult to the same front-line healthcare workers who served patients through the worst of the pandemic, which hit St. Michael's especially hard. "These are the heroes that are so often commended for their public service, yet the hospital itself denies them a basic and inexpensive safety provision," she said.

"Just when hospitals are reeling from staff shortages everywhere, this is how they treat the staff members who have served St. Michaels patients for the worst of the pandemic, and for the long-haul, often for decades. Our members deserve better."

JNESO District Council 1 is a healthcare union representing more than 5,000 nurses and other health care workers in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. For more information, visit <http://www.jneso.org/>

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