



~ April 2007

**Open Letter to SEIU President Andy Stern from the UHW Member Leaders in Alliance Facilities**

We, the undersigned, are UHW member leaders in Alliance facilities. Attached to this letter, you will find copies of petitions signed by our members stating our concerns, expectations and demands for any new California Alliance agreement. The 3100 signatures listed in these petitions represent 75% of all our members in Alliance homes.

We felt compelled to pass this petition because we were concerned about the bargaining process. In September 2006, our Union surveyed about 1600 workers at Alliance facilities to understand our priorities in any new agreement. Among the top priorities were: a) To ensure that we receive our fair share of AB1629 in order to win industry standards in wages and benefits, b) To phase out template agreements, which limit the rights of workers including the right to strike and reduce members to a second class status, c) To have a real voice in our work to help improve the quality of care for nursing home residents, and d) To have real industry power by ensuring that 100% of Alliance homes are unionized.

From the very beginning, our members' input has been rejected. We have been told we can not be at the negotiation table by your National Representative Job Barton. Having the International Union and 434B voting against any of the proposals formulated by our representatives, our voices were silenced. This is despite the fact that 3 out of every 4 unionized nursing home workers are UHW members. We have been subjected to the will of the minority and we are fundamentally opposed to this.

Furthermore, the operators are now daring to demand that which union should represent nursing home workers in the State of California and the International staff assigned to be the chair of these negotiations has never rejected such position. In addition our union, under protest, was excluded from a meeting between Tyrone Freeman and Alliance operators on April 6<sup>th</sup> where very serious and disturbing proposals regarding our future were presented. We have now learned that when future negotiations occur UHW will not be at the negotiating table at all and our right to vote on any agreement is not a guarantee.

We are deeply troubled by the current direction of SEIU. As UHW members, we are used to union democracy, having our voices being heard and more importantly direct the direction of our organization. The current situation is completely contrary to this vision and we fully disapprove.

We are asking for a meeting with you and some of our rank-file leaders. We want you to intervene and stop the violation of our rights. Please contact our President, Sal Rosselli, to convene such discussion.

Sincerely

SHARON EVANS

Paulle Cook

Patrick Jerome Forté

Yvonne Anderson

Helen Jung

Cathleen Harris

Janette Wynn

Alicia Moore

Vernell Willis

Sandra Clark

Virginia Phillips

Sara Palacios

Melvin M. Cameron  
Lucia Amador & Family  
Dorothy Kay  
Lacie Carter  
Rogelia Engela  
Tom B. P.  
Helda Ruiz  
Mary Bewee  
Rosario Menez  
ANGELA NRETIAN  
Mickie Bermudez  
Charlott Fernandez  
Debbie Gates  
Daisy Flavian  
Ashley Garrett  
Mina Yopez  
Erandy Kodone

Robert Wess  
Dygh J  
Cheryl Young  
Thermon L. Sustado  
Miguel A Perez  
Tamara Britton  
Lydia Y. Inay  
Lucy Infante  
Rosa Rodriguez  
Juan Gabriel  
Abraham Lopez  
Deloras Harper  
Shannon Compton  
Inez Thoma  
Helen Sifuentes  
Mary Beunless