Local 5 Newsletter November 2013

Aloha! We will be distributing this Local 5 Newsletter with updates & announcements once a month. If you would like an email version, please sign up on the Local 5 website www.unitehere5.org

AiKea at Work

HHV members make their voices heard



364 Housekeepers at the Hilton Hawaiian Village signed a petition demanding that management respect the work that the housekeepers do, trust that they are working hard, and not intimidate or harass housekeepers when they exercise their rights under the contract. On October 30, 12 members of the Housekeeping department at HHV delegated the General Manager, Neil Poisson. Workers raised concerns about workload, not taking breaks, and the need to feel safe when they bring down rooms. They demanded the respect that they deserve.

Workers stand up against subcontracting



On November 1, over 50 workers from the Sheraton Waikiki and Royal Hawaiian Hotel sent a strong message to Kyo-ya and Starwood: they expect their company to live up to their agreements on subcontracting. The company intends to violate the contract by outsourcing the sound and light work, and workers are rightfully upset. Mark Agena of SW acknowledged the high skill level of the sound and light crew and the workers' loyalty to Kyo-ya.

Rodney Nakashima of the grounds crew said the company should bring back outsourced work (in-door plants) in order to protect landscaping jobs affected by the Princess Kaiulani Hotel closure. Workers are prepared to take further action if the company does not honor the contract.

Stand up for better patient care!



Kaiser workers came out to stand up for better patient care on November 7. Workers demanded that Kaiser should address workload issues and improve staffing. For example, Kaiser continues to cut hospital aide shifts when there is a clear need to tend to the patients. Kaiser should take care of us so we can take care of you! Addressing workload and staffing issues will help workers give patients the care they deserve.

New contracts at Waikiki Beach Marriott & Ramada Plaza



Workers in two of Local 5's smaller hotels won matching victories this year, securing agreements that ensure that union members working there will have the same excellent wages and benefits as members in the largest Waikiki beachfront hotels will receive. Refusing to accept "second class" status, Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort and Ramada Plaza workers vowed to strike if their employers refused to match the provisions of the excellent 5-year contract recently negotiated with Hilton, Starwood, Hyatt and Marriott.

o strike proved necessary, and our members received hefty lump sum bonuses after the contracts were ratified. Still in negotiations are union members at Queen Kapiolani, whose management has so far been unwilling to match the Waikiki Resort and Ramada Plaza agreements. Queen Kapiolani workers are considering strike action to ensure their contract is not substandard.





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AiKea in the Community

Keeping Hotel Rooms Keeps Our Local Jobs We want to save hotel jobs. Can we sign you up?



Have you seen us in the streets? For the last eight weeks, Local 5 staff and leaders rode busses, stood at bus stops, attended community events, and knocked on doors to get all hotel workers to join together. We want to pass a law that we hope will save the Ilikai, and ensure make sure that no other group of hotel workers will ever face the conversion of existing hotel rooms into condos. Over 1,700 people have signed our petition so far. Join us - sign our petition & get all hotel workers, union and non-union, to sign too! AiKeaHawaii.org/CondoPetition

Saving our hotels, one neighborhood at a time



For a whole week starting November 11, AiKea organizers and Local 5 leaders door knocked in Kalihi, Liliha, Wahiawa, and Whitmore Village to spread the word on how the conversions of hotel rooms into condos are hurting our entire community. We asked these members of the community to sign our petition. We knocked on 3,188 doors and signed up 1,213 supporters who want to keep hotel rooms & keep local jobs. This is just the start to our campaign to save the Ilikai and other hotels!

AiKea at the Taste of Kalihi



On October 19, AiKea organizers attended the 7th annual Taste of Kalihi, an all-day street festival with food, festivities, and more. Attendees visited the AiKea booth, where people learned about the negative impact on the community when hotel rooms are converted into condos. Over 80 people came to our booth to sign the petition calling on City Council to address this crisis in order to keep local jobs in Hawai'i. AiKea organizers also performed "Trouble in Paradise" on stage, a street theater piece about this very issue.





