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Important Message from Eric Gill and Gemma Weinstein Regarding COVID-19 and layoff response

March 9, 2020

UNITE HERE Local 5 hotel members,

Local 5 has begun bargaining with hotel employers to deal with the impact on workers of the many layoffs we are experiencing, and to address measures to protect the health of workers and guests. The Union has been communicating to our Employers that worker safety is equally as important as guest safety, as is maintaining health care benefits for our member during this health crisis.

We will NOT agree to roll back any of our contract rights and benefits as some employers have proposed.

Some of the proposals we are making to our employers:

- Protect medical benefits of workers who lose hours
- Suspend punitive measures when workers call in sick
- Increase staff resources for the cleaning of the public and work areas

We encourage members to get involved in these bargaining sessions at the hotels.

Also, the Union is organizing resources and expertise to help those who are impacted by lack of work. We will be working with management to provide opportunities for our members to access union and government programs to support our families through this crisis. Stay tuned.

Eric Gill & Gemma Weinstein