

LPA Occupational Chair Chandell Tutt along with the LPA negotiations team that consisted of LPA Tutt representing Adult Residential, Yolanda Chavez-Rossy out of San Jose representing the Elderly Program, Susan Neeson out of Oakland representing the Child Care Program and Angela King out of Riverside representing the Children's Residential Program. The team along with President Nancy Swindell, Northern Vice President Dr. John Marlet, Southern Vice President Mona Mosk and Chief Negotiator and Northern Business Agent Pam Manwiller met with DPA and team of others to discuss items we would like negotiated into our new contract. The issues the LPA team discussed were: Article 7.1 (salaries) each LPA on the team explained what we do in each of the programs represented and why we feel we deserve a salary increase. Article 15.20 (Labor Management Committee with LPA's) This would include a committee of four members of bargaining unit 19 and four management employee to meet and discuss workload issues that affect our members, and the members who are part of this committee who meet with management will serve on the committee without loss of compensation. Article 17.9 (Licensing Program Analyst Production Goals) This article is asking the department prior to setting goals and standards for our classification to discuss these goals and standards with the union before implementing them into action. (We as LPA's know better than anyone what will work better to make sure the goals/standards of the department is met as well how we are capable of making it happen without burning ourselves out or having the department set unrealistic goals we would have a hard time meeting. Lastly we discussed in great detail the transportation. Transportation would include making rental vehicles accessible to perform our job, as well as the hardship LPA's are facing when renting a car and having to use their own finances to put gas back into the rental vehicle prior to returning the car. The team discussed in great detail how not all state office have state vehicle, and how LPA's have to share the state vehicles. The team mentioned that when state vehicles are not available (which most times they are not) we have to rent cars and put gas into the vehicles once we return them back to enterprise, the team stressed how that has impacted their finances because now the LPA's have to take money away from themselves as well as their families to put gas into a vehicle used to do state business on state time when the department should be providing us with the proper tools to do our jobs. The team asked for each LPA office to have gas cards and that the department direct bill the gas when we return the vehicles back to enterprise. All and all, negotiations went well. So let's keep our fingers crossed, that we get what we asked for.

In solidarity,
Chandell
LPA OC