



Stat Report 2015/21

Next steps in *No Pay? No Way!* campaign

The Union's No Pay? No Way! campaign continues to pick up momentum following this year's Annual Conference.

It was great to have the Victorian Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Mary-Anne Thomas, come to Annual Conference to not only inform us about the Andrews' Labor Government's plans to re-invest in healthcare. It was also a great opportunity to have Ms Thomas at hear first-hand about the growing structural reliance in our services on unpaid work by medical scientists, psychologists, and hospital pharmacists.

The Union has also visited a large number of health services across Victoria speaking with members about unpaid work, workloads and our campaign.

It has become abundantly clear that unpaid work and workloads are a major issue. In every workplace we have visited this year, members have expressed their concerns about workloads, about the lack of understanding (sometimes straight out denial) from supervisors about workloads, about the growing number of colleagues that are stressed and suffering illness, and that management are unwilling to fill vacancies.

As one member put it to the Union through our survey in 2014, "Management value budget savings over patient safety and staff welfare". In fact we couldn't have put it better ourselves. And it's a message being repeated over and over among members across the public and private sectors.

That's why the Union is working on the next phase of our campaign.

We still have a lot of work to do to make sure members know that it's okay to say "No" to unpaid work or doing the work of absent colleagues. We still have a lot of work to do to make sure members know that we're fighting to reverse the trend of larger workloads, longer hours and more unpaid work.

But to make sure that we keep making progress we need your support.

Here are the top 3 things you can do right now:

1. Talk to your colleagues about workloads and saying "No" to unpaid work. Remember: You can't be forced to perform unpaid work and your refusal is a lawful action for which you cannot be disciplined or punished.
2. Let us know when you're doing unpaid work. Click [here](#) and report it.*
3. Help us identify breaches in your workplace. By helping us to identify breaches of our Agreement, you are enabling the Union to take action on those breaches and enforcing our Agreement. Click [here](#) and report breaches.*

** To report your unpaid work and breaches of our Agreement you will need to register for the website.*

Save Paid Parental Leave

Despite what the Abbott Government says, Australian mums and dads aren't fraudsters, rorters or double dippers – they're hardworking people who should receive paid leave to spend time with their newborn babies.

The Abbott Government shocked Australians with their Mothers' Day announcement to deny access to Government funded paid parental leave to 46% of Australian women. As a result, 80,000 families will lose out with \$11,500 to be ripped out of the budgets of 34,000 of those households.

It's a decision that could force many mums to return to work earlier because they and their families will not be able to afford to stay off work without any income.

It's time to stop the attack on working parents – and you can help by signing our petition calling on key Senators to vote against Abbott's paid parental leave plunder.

[Sign the petition & help save Paid Parental Leave](#)

St Vincent's and Easter Holiday Pay

It has been brought to the Union's attention that St Vincent's are incorrectly saying they have overpaid people for the Easter holiday entitlement and are trying to recover the money from them.

The Union has contacted the human resources department at St Vincent's and they are trying to rectify this matter for us. In the meantime if you receive anything about recovering overpayment please contact the Union as soon as possible.

Union membership due by end of Financial Year

Members of the union who pay their membership subscription dues annually are reminded that this payment needs to be made before 30 June 2015 in order for it to be included in this year's tax return to the ATO. If you haven't received your invoice then contact the Union as soon as possible.

The membership fees for 2015/2016 financial year are:

MSAV	inc-GST
Full Time	\$608.90
Part Time	\$365.20
Sessional	\$187.60
Non-working	\$81.50

VPA Inc	
Full Time	\$608.90
Part Time	\$365.20
Non-working	\$81.50
Student	\$30.70
Sessional	\$187.60
Private practice	\$277.40

AHP	
Full Time	\$565.60
Part Time	\$339.40
Non-working	\$81.50
Sessional	\$113.10
Trainee	\$108.60

Worth Reading: Climate mitigation – the greatest public health opportunity of our time

“Tackling climate change is the greatest global health opportunity of the 21st century, a team of 60 international experts today declared in a special report for The Lancet medical journal.

The 2015 Lancet Commission on Health and Climate report comes six years after the groundbreaking first Commission report – a collaboration between The Lancet and University College London – which described climate change as the “biggest global health threat of the 21st century”.

The latest report shows many mitigation and adaptation responses to climate change can directly reduce the burden of ill health, boost community resilience, and lessen poverty and inequity.

In particular, switching to clean renewable energy sources, energy-efficient buildings and active transport options will reduce air pollution and have flow-on health benefits. This includes reducing rates of heart disease, cancer, obesity, diabetes, mental illness and respiratory disease.”

Read the entire article by Fiona Armstrong in The Conversation at:

<https://theconversation.com/climate-mitigation-the-greatest-public-health-opportunity-of-our-time-43549>

Worth Reading: Cat lovers rejoice: watching online videos lowers stress and makes you happy

“Watching cute cat videos and looking at their online pictures may not be a waste of time. A new study has found doing so could boost energy levels and increase feelings of happiness.

Published in the journal Computers in Human Behavior the study even suggests that watching internet cats could be used as a form of digital pet therapy or stress relief.

Internet data shows two million cat videos were posted on YouTube as of 2014, totalling nearly 26 billion views. Celebrity cats – such as Grumpy Cat and Lil BUB – have also sprung up on social media, garnering mass followings.”

Read the entire piece by Sasha Petrova on The Conversation at:

<https://theconversation.com/cat-lovers-rejoice-watching-online-videos-lowers-stress-and-makes-you-happy-43460>

Your Union is on Facebook

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Benefits for Union Members

As a union member, you can take advantage of the collective buying power of more than 1.9 million members to get discounts on a great range of products and services.

ACTU Member Connect makes sure the products and services are from companies you can rely on to deliver high-quality products with reliable customer service.

There is more information about a range of other benefits union members can access at <http://www.memberconnect.com.au/> or you can call ACTU Member Connect on 1300 362 223.

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA 2015 Raffle

Support the Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA Raffle and stand with workers around the world fighting for justice and safe and decent work.

[Buy your tickets online](#) or FREECALL 1800 888 674 today.

Don't miss out on your chance to win an \$8000 travel voucher or a great Gazelle Ultimate T-1 bicycle valued at \$2,199. Tickets only \$2. Booksellers' prizes also available.

The Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA 2015 Raffle is kindly sponsored by Turner Freeman Lawyers.



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