



Monday, August 5, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: National Labor Relations Board Issues Complaint and Notice of Hearing Against Journey Mental Health Center Inc. for Interfering, Restraining and Coercing Employees' Rights to Organize

National Labor Relations Board Issues Complaint Against Journey Mental Health Center Inc. for Interfering with, Restraining and Coercing Employees

On April 3, 2019 AFSCME Wisconsin filed charges against Journey Mental Health Center, Inc with the National Labor Relations Board. Today, the Union received notice that the NLRB has issued a Complaint and Notice of Hearing against Journey Mental Health Center, Inc.

The Complaint against Journey finds that President and CEO Lynn Brady and Clinical Team Manager Stacy Klein promised employees increased benefits if they chose not to support the Union and thereby interfered, restrained and coerced employees in the exercise of their rights guaranteed in Section 7 and in violation of Section 8(a)(1) of the National Labor Relations Act.

Journey Mental Health Center, Inc is one of the largest contract providers of mental health services for Dane County's Human Services Department, employing a staff of over 500. In August 2012, approximately 180 of Journey's Professional employees formed a union and have been covered by a collective bargaining agreement since 2017. The complaint comes as the parties are negotiating a new collective bargaining agreement.

AFSCME Staff Representative Neil Rainford stated, "Journey employees propose that represented employees receive all of the same paid time off and insurance benefits that all other employees at Journey receive." Journey management has used these benefits as a bargaining chip and means to infringe on employees' right to organize. Rainford continued, "rather than simply agreeing to this common-sense arrangement designed to reduce the high staff turnover, Journey chooses to make illegal promises to employees designed to trick them into relinquishing their rights to a union and fair contract."

Journey's represented employees serve our community's most vulnerable populations and they deserve a fair treatment. Meanwhile, the safety of patients, employees, and community members remain at stake.

For more information, please contact AFSCME Communications Director
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