

# DO YOUR PART

*In order to win our fight for a better contract, it's critical that every member takes steps to protect themselves financially and gets involved both on and off the picket line.*

## **CONTACT YOUR MORTGAGE COMPANY**

Get in touch with your mortgage company as soon as possible to tell them you're engaged in a work stoppage, but the situation is temporary and you'll be back to work when the labor dispute is over. Ask about possibilities for reduced or delayed payments such as interest only payments during the work stoppage.

## **CONTACT OTHER LENDERS**

Contact your landlord, car loan company, credit card company, utility companies, etc. and let them know that you're engaged in a work stoppage. Ask if you can make arrangements for delayed or reduced payments. They will be more likely to work with you if you contact them while your accounts are still current, than if you wait until you're behind.

## **PREPARE TO MEET WITH THE LOCAL'S HEALTHCARE COORDINATOR**

Fill out the Healthcare Information Sheet and take stock of you and your family's medical needs, including prescriptions. If your employer healthcare hasn't been terminated yet, fill all prescriptions and get appointments for routine exams like physicals, vision and dental. The Healthcare Coordinator will help explain your healthcare options, including the USW Emergency Medical Plan which is designed to ensure all members and their families have access to basic medical coverage during a labor dispute.

## **PREPARE TO MEET WITH THE ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE**

Fill out the Assistance Intake Form and discuss your financial needs with your family. While the local won't receive the first deposit from the USW Strike and Defense Fund until the third week of the dispute, it's best to start organizing your financial information such as bills and other obligations right away.

## **FIND OTHER WORK**

Finding temporary work can help relieve some of the financial burden for you and the local Strike and Defense Fund. It also sends a message to the company that we're willing to stay out as long as it takes.

## **GET INVOLVED ON THE PICKET LINE AND BEYOND**

Get your picket schedule from a Picket Captain and talk with your Local Union leaders about other ways to plug in such as reaching out to the community, helping plan events and actions, making phone calls to other members or helping organize a kitchen or pantry. If you're unable to do picket duty, ask about other ways you can help.

## **SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT**

Put a sign in your yard and help pass out signs, flyers, stickers, and other visibility materials in your community. Talk with your friends, neighbors, local businesses, places of worship, and community organizations about the dispute. Let people know how they can help by visiting the picket line, donating to the Strike and Defense Fund or showing up to one of the union's events.

UNITED STEELWORKERS  
**USW** **STANDING STRONG**

